



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

August 23, 2018

MR. JASON LEOPOLD
1669 BENEDICT CANYON DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210

FOIPA Request No.: 1414366-000
Subject: FBI records referencing President Trump
Tweet (August 11, 2018)

Dear Mr. Leopold:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552/552a. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings which indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemptions boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(3)

☐ (b)(4)

☒ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☐ (b)(7)(C)

☐ (b)(7)(D)

☒ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

60 pages were reviewed and 58 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request as well as the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

☒ Documents were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agencies [OGA].

☒ The appropriate redactions were made by the Department of Justice Office of Information Policy ("DOJ/OIP") and the Executive Office for United States Attorneys ("EOUSA").

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "**Part 1**" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "**Part 2**" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records on individuals. "**Part 3**" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

For questions regarding our determinations, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." The FOIPA Request Number listed above has been assigned to your request. Please use this number in all correspondence concerning your request.

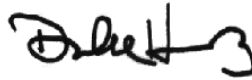
You may file an appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA online portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.



See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

The enclosed documents represent the final release of information responsive to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request.

It is unnecessary to adjudicate your request for a fee waiver as no fees apply.

This material is being provided to you at no charge.

FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum includes information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records on individuals. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records. For questions regarding Parts 1, 2, or 3, visit the www.fbi.gov/foia website under "Contact Us." Previously mentioned appeal and dispute resolution services are also available at the web address.

Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010))]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the www.fbi.gov/foia website.
- (ii) **National Security/Intelligence Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of national security and foreign intelligence records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and PA exemption (j)(2) as applicable to requests for records about individuals [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2); 50 U.S.C § 3024(i)(1)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that national security or foreign intelligence records do or do not exist.

Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records for Incarcerated Individuals.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any incarcerated individual pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (b)(7)(F), and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching those systems or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. A reasonable search normally consists of a search for main files in the Central Records System (CRS), an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled and maintained by the FBI in the course of fulfilling law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization and encompasses the records of FBI Headquarters (FBIHQ), FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide and includes Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records. For additional information about our record searches visit www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foipa/requesting-fbi-records.
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheets. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative "FBI file." An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks. Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at www.edo.cjis.gov. For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

The National Name Check Program (NNCP). The mission of NNCP is to analyze and report information in response to name check requests received from federal agencies, for the purpose of protecting the United States from foreign and domestic threats to national security. Please be advised that this is a service provided to other federal agencies. Private citizens cannot request a name check.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1414366-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 2

Page 9 ~ b5 - Per FBI and DOJ/OIP; b6 - Per FBI;

Page 60 ~ b5; b6;

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X   Deleted Page(s)         X
X   No Duplication Fee      X
X   For this Page           X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: [redacted]
Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 9:15:58 PM

b5
b6

I think this thing with ODAG. He really didn't have any background at all on how we handle text messages under FOIA.

[redacted]
Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit [redacted] (o) [redacted] (m)

b6

----- Original message -----

From: "Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]
Date: 8/15/18 8:53 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]

b5
b6

Really, what does he view as the text message issue?

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 2:29 PM
To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]

b5
b6

As an update: ODAG has still not contacted us directly about this but seems to be communicating directly with OIP, which I'm not thrilled about.

Also, IMD's new AD, Marlin Ritzman, swung by my office a little bit ago to introduce himself and to get a general briefing on the text message issue.

[redacted]
[redacted]
Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

b6

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[redacted] (office) | [redacted] (mobile)
[redacted] (unclass) | [redacted] (Secret) | [redacted] (TS)

Confidentiality Statement:

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with

any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling [redacted]

b6

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:21 AM

To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

Subject: [redacted]

b5

b6

Hi [redacted]

[redacted]

b5

b6

[redacted]

b6

[redacted]

Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[redacted] (office) | [redacted] (mobile)

[redacted] (unclass) | [redacted] (Secret) | [redacted] (TS)

Confidentiality Statement:

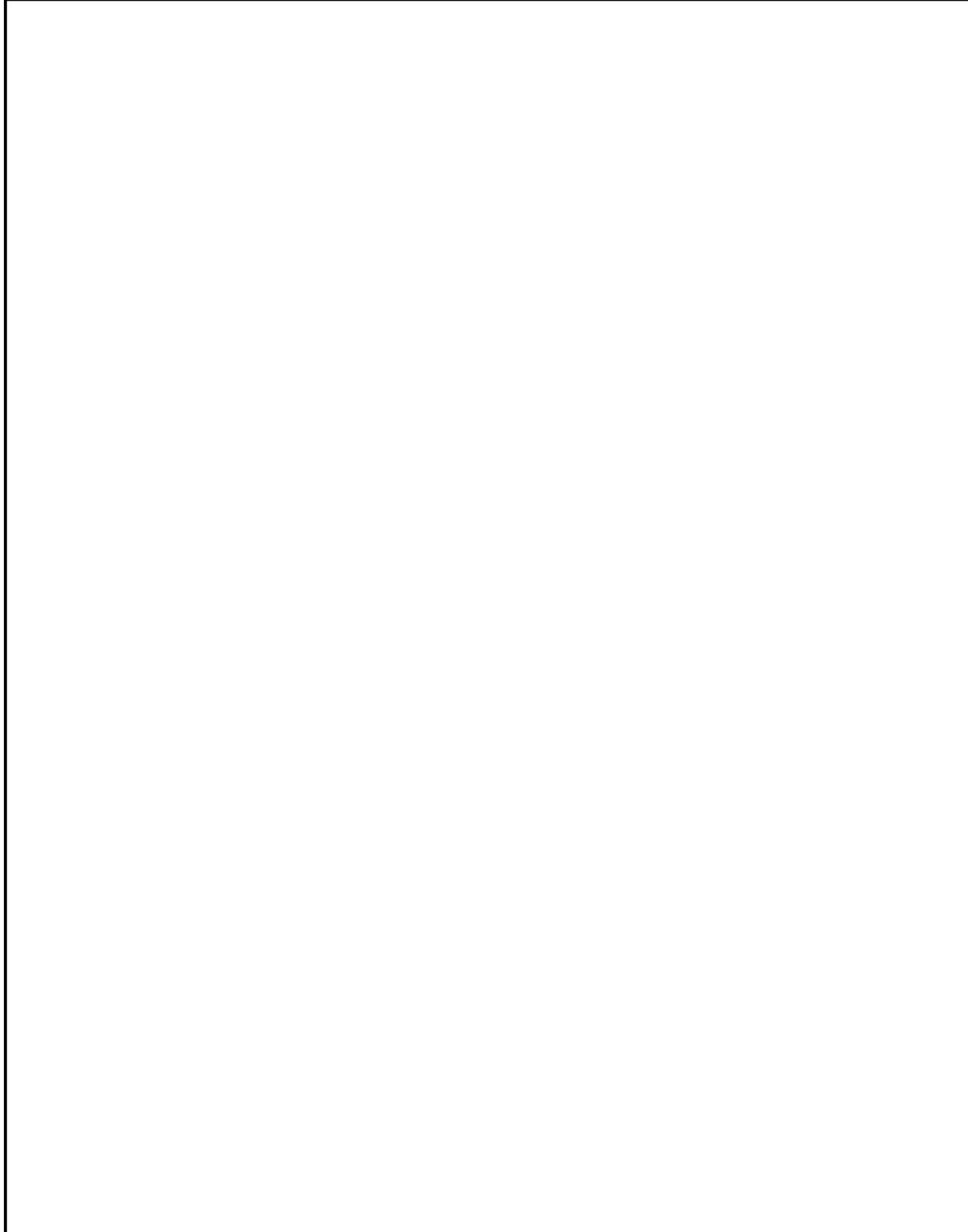
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b6 Per FBI

b5 Per FBI and DOJ/OIP

b6 Per FBI

-----Original Message-----





From: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: [redacted]
Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 8:51:32 PM

b5
b6

Thanks [redacted] Sigh! I will alert Dana.

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: [redacted]

b5
b6

Hi [redacted] b6

[redacted]

b5
b6

[redacted]

[redacted]

Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

b6

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[redacted] office) | [redacted] (mobile)
[redacted] (unclass) | [redacted] (Secret) | [redacted] (TS)

b6 Per FBI

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b5 Per FBI and DOJ/OIP

b6 Per FBI

Original Message





From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
To: [redacted] (IV)
Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Kolsky, Joshua (USADC)
Subject: [redacted]
Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 2:23:00 PM

b5
b6

FYI. The President's Sunday tweet about this case (Danik) come to ODAG's attention, apparently.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

b6

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[redacted] (office) | [redacted] (mobile)
[redacted] (unclass) [redacted] (Secret) | [redacted] (TS)

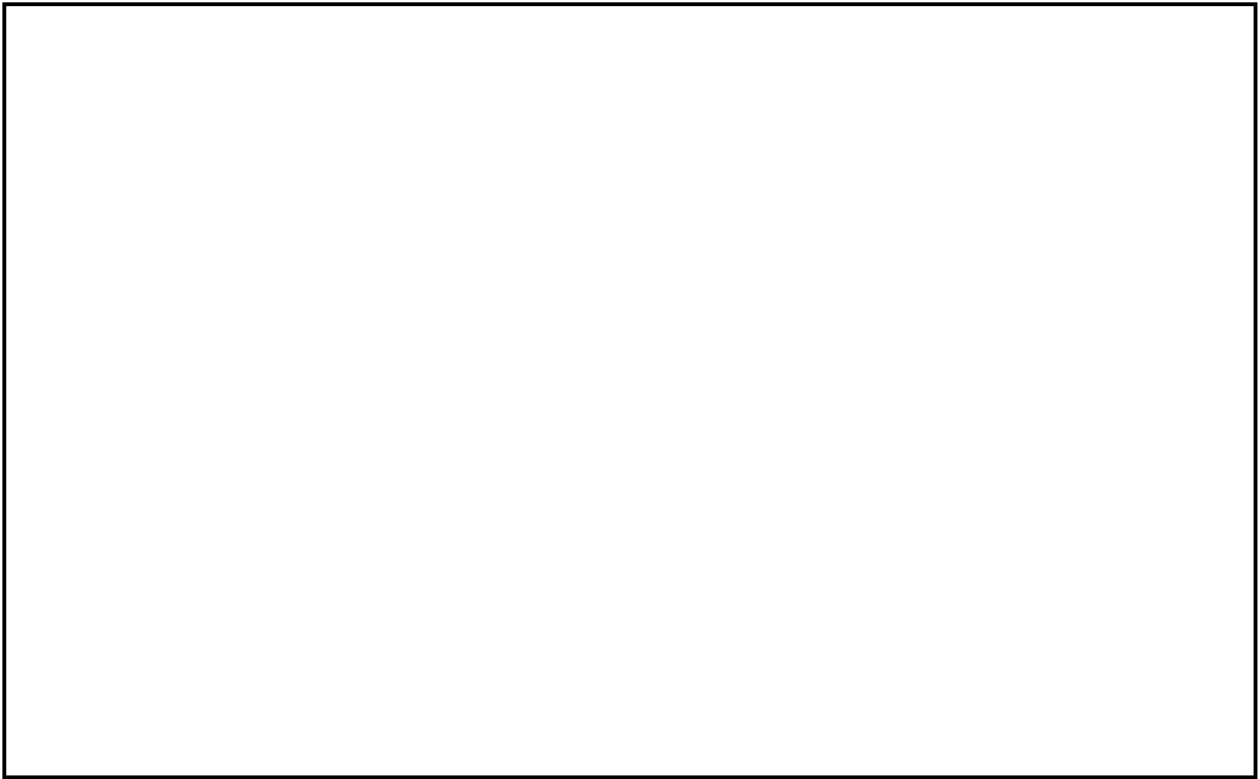
Confidentiality Statement:

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b5 Per FBI and DOJ/OIP
b6 Per FBI

-----Original Message-----

[redacted]



From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Danik v U.S. Department of Justice, 17-cv-01792 (TSC)
Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 9:25:00 AM

b6

Oh yes, I've seen it. Thanks.

[redacted]
Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[redacted] (office) | [redacted] (mobile)
[redacted] (unclass) | [redacted] (Secret) | [redacted] (TS)

b6

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b6

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:22 AM
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Danik v U.S. Department of Justice, 17-cv-01792 (TSC)

In case you hadn't already seen the news coverage of this.

[redacted]

b6

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel | FOIA Litigation Unit
Office: [redacted] | Mobile: [redacted]

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT:

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From: Kolsky, Joshua (USADC) [mailto:[redacted]@usdoj.gov]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 4:03 PM
To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: Danik v U.S. Department of Justice, 17-cv-01792 (TSC)

b6 Per EOUSA

b6

FYI, please see the email from Plaintiff's counsel below.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 10:07 AM

b6 Per FBI and EOUSA

To: Kolsky, Joshua (USADC) <[REDACTED]@doj.gov>

b6 Per EOUSA

Subject: Danik v U.S. Department of Justice, 17-cv-01792 (TSC)

Josh –

I am following up on our conversation last week. Have you had an opportunity to speak with the FBI concerning the search related to [REDACTED]

b6 Per EOUSA

Also, as you may have seen, on Saturday, the President said, “Why isn’t the FBI giving Andrew McCabe text messages to Judicial Watch or appropriate governmental authorities. FBI said they won’t give up even one (I may have to get involved, DO NOT DESTROY). What are they hiding? McCabe wife took big campaign dollars from Hillary people.” In light of this, is your client now going to search for and produce all non-exempt, responsive text messages to my client?

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

b6 Per EOUSA

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: News Briefing - August 13, 2018
Date: Monday, August 13, 2018 8:52:36 AM
Attachments: image001.png

b6

From: PAC
Sent: Monday, August 13, 2018 12:52:09 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik
To: SCO All
Subject: News Briefing - August 13, 2018

News Briefing – August 13, 2018

Giuliani Says Trump Lawyers Are Prepared To Counter Mueller.

In an interview with the Wall Street Journal (8/12, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani said the President is open to talking to Special Counsel Robert Mueller under limited conditions. However, in a new development, Giuliani said Trump won't sit for an interview after Sept. 1 to avoid affecting the midterm elections. Meanwhile, Giuliani said Trump's legal team can survive a report from Mueller, and that the team is prepared to issue a counterreport in response.

Giuliani Says Trump Lawyers Have Negotiated With Mueller In Good Faith.

Giuliani said on Fox News Media Buzz [REDACTED] (8/12, 1.27M), "The reality is we've made a good-faith offer" to special counsel Robert Mueller. Giuliani added, "He did not reject it immediately, which is a good sign. I think that he would say we have negotiated with him in good faith. We have not given him all that he wants. We have not given him all that he would like of us. But there is a way that the President would take and answer questions. But we are just not going to subject him to what we call perjury traps. I kind of think of it as malpractice if we did." Giuliani said on CNN's State Of The Union [REDACTED] (8/12, 932K) that the purpose of seeking to question the President is "to write up some kind of perjury thing."

Giuliani: Trump Never Told Comey "Go Easy" On Michael Flynn.

USA Today (8/12, Jackson, 11.4M) reports Giuliani said Sunday that the President "did not speak to then-FBI Director James Comey about an investigation into former aide Michael Flynn, a key point in an ongoing obstruction of justice investigation and the subject of changing stories." The New York Post (8/12, Moore, 4.46M) reports that if Trump agrees to be interviewed by Robert Mueller's investigators, "Giuliani said the President will flatly deny he told Comey to 'let this go.'"

Giuliani told CNN's State of the Union [REDACTED] (8/12, Tapper, 932K), "There was no conversation about Michael Flynn. The President didn't find out that Comey believed there was until about, I think, it was February when it supposedly took place. Memo came out in May, and in between, Comey testified under oath, in no way had he been obstructed at any time. Then all of the sudden in May he says he felt obstructed. He felt pressured by that comment, 'You should go easy on Flynn,' so we maintain the president didn't say that."

The Washington Times (8/12, Howell, 460K) reports "CNN host Jake Tapper said Mr. Giuliani appeared to offer a different version in a July interview with ABC's This Week, when he said Mr. Trump asking Mr. Comey to give Mr. Flynn a break would be excusable."

The New York Times (8/12, Haberman, 19.33M) says Giuliani's statement "appeared at odds with his own previous comments," noting his comments to ABC News' George

Stephanopoulos. Politico (8/12, Guida, 3.51M) likewise says “Tapper referenced comments by Giuliani to ABC last month in which the attorney said Trump did not ask Comey to drop the investigation.” Said Giuliani in July, “He didn’t direct him to do that. What he said to him was, ‘Can you give him a break?’”

Giuliani’s interview with ABC wasn’t the only time he appeared to confirm the Flynn conversation. He told Fox News on July 30 that Trump had asked Comey to “exercise his prosecutorial discretion” when it came to Flynn. Slate (8/12, 1.71M) says “Giuliani is backtracking and pretending he isn’t.”

Giuliani: Mueller “Bound” By DOJ Practice To Try To Complete Probe Before Election.

Giuliani said on CNN’s State Of The Union (8/12, 932K) Sunday that Mueller is “bound” by “a Justice Department practice” that “to the best you can, you shouldn’t be carrying these things on right before an election.” Giuliani added, “You can’t carry on this investigation without a leak. I don’t know who’s doing it but maybe it’s the special counsel, maybe it’s some of the agents, maybe it’s some of the defense lawyers. I don’t know, but everything gets leaked or just about everything. You don’t want to do what Comey did, which is to have some serious disclosure take place out of your control ten days before the election.”

CNN White House reporter Kaitlin Collins said on CNN Inside Politics (8/12, 762K), “We see just how wrong Rudy Giuliani and Jay Sekulow can be when they are saying this is going to be brought to an end by September 1. It needs to be ended soon and then Robert Mueller subpoenas Randy Credico to testify on September 7. It just really goes to show how we’re only hearing from the President’s legal team’s side on this and just how wrong they can be. Even Mueller and them aren’t talking in public, we’re seeing through their actions how they are responding to claims.”

In an analysis, NPR (8/11, Ewing, 3.55M) reported that “Mueller may be running out of space to maneuver — or he may not. But the White House is calibrating its strategy as though a clock is ticking.” According to NPR, Trump and the White House believe Mueller “doesn’t want to make any major moves or announcements after Labor Day, because he’s sensitive to criticism that he might improperly influence the midterm election.” The article continued: “If that’s so, Mueller has roughly three weeks to do whatever he’s going to do and then — who knows? ... As usual, no one knows except him, and there is no independent statement from Mueller to suggest that he feels bound by any of these expectations.”

Giuliani Calls NYTimes Reporter “Moron” Over Perjury Trap Comments.

Fox News (8/12, 16.38M) reports that Giuliani “slammed as an ‘idiot’ a New York Times reporter during an interview Sunday on Fox News’ ‘Media Buzz,’ saying it should be apparent that even honest clients run a major risk of falling into a so-called perjury trap if they agree to meet with federal investigators.” Giuliani’s comments came after the Times’ Nicholas Confessore argued on MSNBC this week that Giuliani’s concerns that Trump might be charged with lying to investigators if he met with Mueller’s team revealed that “the president’s story is wrong, it’s a lie.” Giuliani said on Fox: “I don’t know if he’s deliberately being like that or if he’s a complete moron. The reality is, you can be accused of perjury when you’re telling the absolute truth.”

Sasse: “I’m Glad Mueller Is There” Leading Russia Probe.

The Lincoln (NE) Journal Star (8/11, Walton, 243K) reported Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) “believes...Mueller is the right man for the job and that his investigation into Russian interference in America’s 2016 presidential election is providing a service to the country.” In an interview, Sasse said, “We are really fortunate to have him leading this investigation.” He

noted that 25 foreign indictments already have been issued, and that's "a really big deal. ... And when you layer on what some of us who have participated in intelligence briefings know, it's even a bigger deal." He later added, "There's lots of big and important stuff coming out of the investigation. I'm glad Mueller is there."

Von Drehle: If Trump "Never Got Dirty" Working In Mob-Heavy Industries, He Has Nothing To Worry About From Mueller.

In his Washington Post (8/10, Von Drehle, 15.68M) column, David Von Drehle asserted that "if it seems harsh to compare [Paul] Manafort to a mobster, take it up with President Trump," who "ought to know: He has spent plenty of time in mobbed-up milieus." He added that "as many journalists have documented...Trump's trail was blazed through one business after another notorious for corruption by organized crime." Von Drehle concluded "obviously, not everyone in these industries is corrupt, and if Donald Trump spent four decades rubbing elbows with wiseguys and never got dirty, he has nothing to worry about from special counsel Robert S. Mueller III. But does he look unworried to you?"

Trump Alleges "Media Coverup Of The Biggest Story Of Our Time."

President Trump tweeted Sunday morning, "'Seems like the Department of Justice (and FBI) had a program to keep Donald Trump from becoming President.' @DarrellIssa @foxandfriends If this had happened to the other side, everybody involved would be in jail. This is a Media coverup of the biggest story of our time."

In another tweet, the President wrote, "@JudgeJeanine 'Bob Mueller, isn't your whole investigation premised on a Fake Dossier, paid for by Hillary, created by a man who hates Donald Trump, & used to con a FISA Court Judge. Bob, I really think it's time for you to give up your phony investigation.' No Collusion!"

Trump Blasts DOJ, Sessions, Says He May "Get Involved."

Bloomberg News (8/11, Sink, Mayeda, 4.46M) reported that a day earlier, Trump "accused his own attorney general of being 'scared stiff and missing in action' as the president continued to question whether officials in his administration have acted appropriately in probing the Trump campaign's Russian connections." The President tweeted, "The big story that the Fake News Media refuses to report is lowlife Christopher Steele's many meetings with Deputy A.G. Bruce Ohr" and Ohr's wife Nellie. He added, "I have never seen anything so Rigged in my life. Our A.G. is scared stiff and Missing in Action. It is all starting to be revealed--not pretty." USA Today (8/11, Shesgreen, 11.4M) reported that Trump also "attacked the FBI Saturday for not turning over text messages written by Andrew McCabe, the agency's former deputy director, to a conservative group." Trump "suggested the FBI was 'hiding' something and threatened 'to get involved' in the law enforcement agency's handling of the text messages." He tweeted, "Why isn't the FBI giving Andrew McCabe text messages to Judicial Watch or appropriate governmental authorities. FBI said they won't give up even one (I may have to get involved, DO NOT DESTROY). What are they hiding? McCabe wife took big campaign dollars from Hillary people....."

The AP (8/12, Colvin; Horwitz) reports that President Trump "raged on Saturday, lashing out at his Justice Department on Twitter." Politico (8/11, Griffiths, 3.51M) said Trump "publicly castigated the Justice Department, the attorney general and the FBI, amplifying his allies' recent efforts to cast doubt on the Russia probe after remaining largely silent as the trial of his former campaign chairman progresses."

The New York Daily News (8/11, Schladebeck, 3.71M) had a similar report titled, "President Trump Rages Against FBI's Handling Of Andrew McCabe's 'Text Messages' In Typo Tweet." The article noted that Trump misspelled Nellie Ohr's name as "Nelly."

Trump: Bartiromo Says “No Evidence To Launch” Collusion Investigation.

In an analysis, Washington Post (8/10, Bump, 15.68M) correspondent Philip Bump says Trump on Friday tweeted, “@MariaBartiromo ‘No evidence to launch even an investigation into potential collusion between Donald Trump and the Russians – and here we are, a year and a half later.’” According to Bump, Trump’s tweet “of course...was incorrect” and it “followed four on Thursday addressing the same subject. It was one of 10 tweets since Sunday.”

Sekulow, Giuliani Defend Trump On Hannity’s Radio Show, Fox & Friends.

The Hill (8/10, Thomsen, 2.71M) reported Fox News host Sean Hannity on Friday tweeted that President Trump’s attorneys Jay Sekulow and Rudy Giuliani “will be guest hosting for me today on radio... ‘The depth of corruption that led to this investigation and that frankly continues to permeate this investigation is unprecedented...’”

Meanwhile, appearing on Fox News’ Fox & Friends (8/10, 1.37M), Jay Sekulow said, “The biggest news of late has been the whole Bruce Ohr situation. So, you had the number four at the United States Department of Justice, the number four...His wife happens to work for Fusion GPS, who happens to be retained to put together the dossier with Chris Steele. And Chris Steele happens to be talking to the FBI and to Bruce Ohr. ... Christopher Steele gets fired for leaking information, but Bruce Ohr continues the ongoing dialogue. ... Why in the world would this investigation have legitimacy at this point? It was really corrupt at its inception.” Sekulow added, “So that plays into this calculus you make as to whether [President Trump] will submit to an interview” with Special Counsel Robert Mueller. According to Sekulow, Mueller’s team has “not made the constitutional case to speak to the President.”

Graham Calls For Special Counsel To Investigate FBI.

The New York Post (8/12, Schwab, 4.46M) reports Sen. Lindsey Graham said Sunday it was “at least unethical” for a Department of Justice official to be investigating President Trump while his wife was working for the opposition research firm that produced the Steele dossier. Graham “took issue with Bruce Ohr for being involved in the Trump-Russia probe before it was turned over to special counsel Robert Mueller because his wife, Nellie Ohr, worked for Fusion GPS during the 2016 election cycle.” During an appearance on Fox News Sunday, the Republican senator also called for a special counsel be named to investigate the Justice Department and the FBI.

Breitbart (8/12, Key, 1.28M) quotes Graham as saying, “The criminal investigation of the Clinton campaign was a joke. When it came to the Trump campaign, it was corrupt, it was biased and I think unethical. Mr. Ohr should not have had any role in investigating the Trump campaign because his wife worked at Fusion GPS. ... We need a special counsel to look at all things Department of Justice and FBI when it came to the Trump investigation, particularly the counterintelligence investigation.”

Asked about Ohr, House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes (R-CA) said on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M), “He has been the go-between Christopher Steele...and Glenn Simpson – remember he was working for Fusion GPS, who are working for the Clinton campaign. ... A lot of this information wasn’t shared with the FISA court, especially because of the fact that Christopher Steele was desperate that Donald Trump not become President. After that happened, Bruce Ohr, one of the top lawyers in the Department of Justice, kept continually meeting and providing information from Christopher Steele to who? The FBI. This is just madness. The American people need to know it, and...the fact that the media is ignoring this is even more of a reason that we’re going to have to have more information than usual declassified. We’re going to have to have I think an unprecedented amount of information declassified because the media is just not covering this

topic.”

Emails Contradict Fusion GPS Founder’s Claims About His Contact With Top DOJ Official.

The Daily Caller (8/10, 420K) reported that Fusion GPS founder Glenn Simpson “told House investigators last year that he only met Department of Justice official Bruce Ohr after the 2016 election.” However, “Ohr’s records show that he was in contact with Simpson as early as August 2016.” The DC pointed out that Ohr’s wife, Nellie Ohr, “worked for Fusion GPS on the Steele dossier project.” In addition, Bruce Ohr, “who was demoted from his position as associate deputy attorney general in December, maintained contact with Steele even after the FBI cut ties with...former MI6 officer” Christopher Steele “over his unauthorized disclosures to the media.” The Daily Caller noted that the Washington Examiner “reported on Wednesday that Simpson sent an email with the subject line ‘Can u ring’ to Ohr on Aug. 22, 2016,” and “Ohr’s log shows he had contact of some sort with Simpson on that day.”

McCabe Sues FBI, DOJ For Wrongful Termination, Defamation.

Fox News (8/12, 16.38M) reported that former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe is suing the DOJ, FBI for wrongful termination and defamation. Fox’s Ed Henry said McCabe was fired in March “for leaking information to the media, and then more importantly perhaps, lying to investigators about it. That’s the allegation.” In a 36-page lawsuit, McCabe discussing wanting to get documents from the Justice Department and the FBI to explain more about his firing.

Milbank: Nunes Advocating For Impeachment Of Wrong Administration Official.

In his Washington Post (8/10, Milbank, 15.68M) column, Dana Milbank asserted Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein “must have done something truly and utterly horrible” for House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes and other Republicans to advocate for his impeachment, “because these guys don’t impeach just anybody. In fact, they impeach nobody. Until now they hadn’t given a moment’s thought to impeaching a single member of the Trump administration.” He cited a number of examples and quips “what Rosenstein has done must be worse than all that, and worse than the behaviors of Michael Cohen, Donald Trump Jr., Paul Manafort and Rick Gates that inspire no curiosity among House Republican investigators.”

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Descriptions Of Ohr, Page Follow A Pattern.

In an analysis, the New York Times (8/12, Haberman, 19.33M) reports that President Trump “affixed special descriptions” to tweets complaining about women connected to the Russia investigation. Trump described Nellie Ohr, the wife of former Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr as “beautiful” and former FBI attorney as “lovely.” The Times says those descriptions “reflected his intense interest in physical appearances and his clear disdain for both.” His “commentary on their looks was in keeping with a long-running tendency by Mr. Trump,” who “has attacked women who criticize him as having faces ‘like a dog,’” and “denied accusations of unwanted sexual advances toward women by telling people to ‘look at her.’” Trump “has also denigrated the physical appearance of female political rivals.”

Judge Holds Former Stone Aide In Contempt Of Court.

The AP (8/10, Horwitz) reported that Andrew Miller, identified as “an associate of former Trump campaign adviser Roger Stone,” was held in contempt of court on Friday following “a fresh attempt to challenge Robert Mueller’s appointment.” Miller’s attorney, Paul Kamenar, “argued after the proceedings that Mueller’s appointment is unconstitutional,” and “asserted

that Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein did not have the authority to appoint Mueller to lead the investigation into Trump campaign contacts with Russia.” According to Kamenar, “a prosecutor with powers as broad as Mueller’s should be treated like a U.S. attorney and be subject to Senate confirmation.” Politico (8/10, Cheney, 3.51M) reported that Kamenar “emphasized that Miller had already been interviewed by two FBI agents and largely cooperated with Mueller’s investigation, including on document requests. But he said Miller drew the line at a grand jury appearance.”

Reuters (8/10) reported that Miller’s “refusal to comply with the subpoena from Mueller’s office prompted a sealed hearing before a federal judge, who then made the ruling.” CBS News (8/10, Watson, 6.78M) quoted Kamenar as telling reporters afterwards that the “government wanted to hold him in contempt. We agreed and the reason we agreed is that in order to appeal Judge Howell’s... decision, challenging the constitutionality of the special counsel,” you “have to have a contempt order in order to go to the court of appeals.”

Bloomberg News (8/10, McLaughlin, 4.46M) said Mueller “has been focusing in recent months on Stone,” and “issued subpoenas in May to John Kakanis, a former driver for Stone, and Jason Sullivan, who did social media and administrative work for a political action committee run by Stone in July and August of 2016.” According to Bloomberg, Miller, “who runs a St. Louis house-painting business, hasn’t worked for Stone for three years...except for one week of the Republican National Convention, when he came in to coordinate Stone’s schedule.”

The Washington Post (8/10, Hsu, Barrett, 15.68M) reported that “a hearing transcript from June 18 shows Miller was subpoenaed for information about Stone as well as key figures in the 2016 hacking of the Democratic National Committee, and the public release of Democrats’ emails during the campaign.” In addition, the subpoena “seeks information from Miller about...WikiLeaks and its leader, Julian Assange,” and “about Guccifer 2.0 and DCLeaks,” which “investigators say both were online fronts invented by Russian intelligence operatives to spread the hacked documents,” according to the Post. The Wall Street Journal (8/10, Gurman, Holliday, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) said it has seen emails from Stone to New York radio host Randy Credico asking him to reach out to Assange for information that would help Trump to hurt Hillary Clinton’s campaign.

On the CBS Evening News (8/10, story 3, 2.30, Glor, 5.25M), Paula Reid reported that “Stone and Trump have enjoyed a decades-long friendship, but now he has come under scrutiny for Mueller because of public statement he’s made during the 2016 campaign.” In a front-page article, the New York Times (8/10, Feuer, 19.33M) said Stone “appears to be engaged in his stiffest fight yet: the one for his own legal future.” The Times adds the “stream of developments” on Friday “underscored his peril.”

CNN (8/10, Herb, Robinson, Polantz, 82.6M) said that while Stone hasn’t been contacted by Mueller’s office, “he appears to be under investigation as part of the probe into Russian election interference and possible collusion between Trump’s team and Russian officials.” Stone “appears to be cited, though not by name, in the last month’s special counsel indictment of 12 Russian intelligence officers for hacking the Democratic National Committee. Stone was not charged in the indictment.” Breitbart (8/10, Caplan, 1.28M) reported that in May, Stone told NBC host Chuck Todd that he anticipates being indicted. However, he added, “I can guarantee you they have found no evidence whatsoever of Russian collusion, nor trafficking of allegedly hacked emails with WikiLeaks.”

DNC Serves WikiLeaks Via Twitter.

The Hill (8/10, Bowden, 2.71M) reported lawyers for the Democratic National Committee on Friday served WikiLeaks “with a lawsuit via Twitter, accusing the site of working with the Trump campaign and Russia to swing the 2016 election in President Trump’s favor.” The Hill

said that “the move came Friday after CBS News reported that multiple attempts by DNC lawyers to serve legal documents to WikiLeaks representatives by email were met with no response.”

Late GOP Operative Made “Suspicious” Cash Withdrawals While Seeking Clinton Emails, Documents Show.

BuzzFeed News (8/10, Leopold, Cormier) “reviewed documents showing that FBI agents and congressional investigators have zeroed in on transactions” that Republican activist Peter Smith “made right as his effort to procure Clinton’s emails heated up.” According to BuzzFeed, “The money trail, made public here for the first time, sheds new light on Smith’s effort, in which he told people he was in touch with both Russians on the dark web and Trump campaign officials – particularly Michael Flynn, who was then a top adviser to the Trump campaign and later served as national security adviser before having to resign after misleading White House officials about his meetings with the Russian ambassador to the United States.” However, BuzzFeed says “Smith is dead, and his lawyer, former business partner, and wife did not respond to numerous requests for an interview.”

Manafort Trial Slowed By Disputes Between Prosecutors And Judge.

The AP (8/10, Braun, Day, Kellman) reported that at the Paul Manafort trial on Friday, “a bank executive testified that he was pressured for political reasons to give more than \$16 million in loans to” Manafort. The AP said the trial “resumed Friday afternoon after unexpected delays” that “left uncertain whether prosecutors could wrap up their case against Manafort before the weekend, as had been expected.” According to the AP, US District Judge T.S. Ellis III “called a recess without explanation after huddling with attorneys from Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s office and Manafort’s lawyers for more than 20 minutes,” and subsequently “strongly reminded jurors that they weren’t to discuss the tax evasion and bank fraud case with anyone.”

The AP (8/10, Braun, Day, Kellman) reported that the “mysterious backstage discussions between the judge and attorneys for both sides” were “a strange hiccup in nine days of proceedings that have featured tense exchanges between prosecutors and admittedly impatient U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III as he has pushed the government to speed up its case.”

In fact, Bloomberg News (8/10, Voreacos, Harris, Flatley, Maki, 4.46M) reported that prosecutors “filed another grievance on Friday over the judge’s criticism of prosecutor Uzo Asonye after a Citizens Bank employee testified about Manafort’s failed attempt to get a \$5.5 million construction loan for a Brooklyn property using a doctored profit-and-loss statement. ... ‘You might want to spend time on a loan that was granted,’ Ellis told Asonye.” However, prosecutors pointed out that they “don’t need to establish that conspirators were successful to win a conviction for bank fraud conspiracy,” and complained that “the judge’s remark . . . is likely to sow confusion among the jurors about the merits of that charge.”

In an online video, USA Today (8/11, 11.4M) reported that prosecutors say they expect to rest their case Monday. CNN (8/12, Herb, Polantz, 82.6M) reports that over the nine days of trial so far, prosecutors have “appeared to operate with an overarching goal: Connect the dots between the criminal charges against the former Trump campaign chairman.” The “voluminous documents, testimony corroborated witness by witness, and Manafort’s own emails suggest” Manafort’s defense team won’t be able to overcome the charges. That “could have wide-ranging implications for the Trump administration and President Donald Trump himself. The outcome of the case could have major implications for the public’s perception of Mueller’s ongoing probe of Russian interference in the 2016 election. ... In turn, the courtroom result is likely to affect how Trump’s team reacts to Mueller.”

In a more than 1,900-word front-page article, the Washington Post (8/10, A1, Helderman,

Weiner, Fisher, 15.68M) reported that “as Manafort’s trial on tax and bank fraud charges enters its home stretch, emails and other documents submitted as evidence show that the man who had taken on the enormous task of turning around a troubled presidential campaign was at the same time carrying out what prosecutors portray as a global fraud scheme.” The Post added “at the least, the documents make clear that despite the heavy demands of the campaign, Manafort was also busy maneuvering to salvage his own finances, with an eye toward building a new phase of his career.”

The New York Times (8/12, Lafraniere, Vogel, Haberman, 19.33M) reports that Manafort’s trial “underscores questions about how someone in such deep financial trouble rose to the top of the Trump campaign, spreading a stain that has touched the president’s innermost circle.” According to the Times, the “formidable parade of more than 20 witnesses and hundreds of exhibits” has also “further eroded the notion, advanced by President Trump,” that Special Counsel Robert Mueller is on a “witch hunt.”

Meanwhile, in her Washington Post (8/10, Marcus, 15.68M) column, Ruth Marcus speculated about why Manafort did not cooperate with prosecutors “given the strength of the documentary evidence.” Marcus suggests that perhaps Manafort “is angling for a presidential pardon. But even assuming Trump is willing to commit an act so blatantly self-interested, if not outright corrupt, a pardoned Manafort could still be compelled to testify, and prosecuted for any ensuing perjury unless Trump is so brazen as to prospectively pardon that conduct as well.” However, Marcus added “the mystery – a mystery to me at least – is comprehending the magnitude of Manafort’s greed.” She concludes “It does not seem far-fetched to ask if there is anything else – or to think that, if there is, Mueller and his team already know it. Which might explain, at least in part, the president’s evident and growing agitation.”

In her Washington Post (8/10, Applebaum, 15.68M) column, Anne Applebaum warned “America’s federal institutions are not the only ones designed to prevent someone like Trump from undermining the Constitution.” She adds “We have other kinds of institutions, too – legal organs, regulatory bodies, banks – that are supposed to prevent men like Trump from staying in business, let alone acquiring political power. The truth is that many of these equally important American institutions failed a long time ago. Trump is not the cause of their failure. He is the result.” According to Applebaum, “Some of that institutional failure is on display at the trial of Paul Manafort.” She concludes “Listen closely as Manafort’s trial unfolds: Long before Trump got to Washington, and long before Manafort helped him get there, judicial and law enforcement institutions failed to stop them. Are you still sure that there is no need to worry?”

Federal Savings Banker Says CEO Wanted Cabinet Post.

The Wall Street Journal (8/10, Viswanatha, Corse, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reported that on Friday, former Federal Savings Bank mortgage salesman Dennis Raico testified at former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort’s trial on tax and bank fraud allegations, saying he had been “uncomfortable” about extending \$16 million in loans to Manafort because Stephen Calk, the bank’s CEO, was trying to get appointed to the Trump Administration. According to Raico, Calk had asked him to call Manafort and ask about a role as head of Treasury or Housing and Urban Development.

Bloomberg News (8/12, Voreacos, 4.46M) reports that Calk himself is “under scrutiny by Special Counsel Robert Mueller for a bank fraud conspiracy and other unspecified crimes.” Prosecutor Greg Andres said Friday at a sidebar conference that Calk “is a co-conspirator” with Manafort, “and he participated in the conspiracy to defraud the bank.” Bloomberg News says Calk “served as an economic adviser to Trump’s campaign,” though he has not “been charged with a crime and may never be.” Indeed, Andres at one point “appeared to backtrack on his suggestion that Calk participated in Manafort’s alleged scheme to defraud the bank.”

American Banker (8/10, Subscription Publication, 22K) reported similarly on Raico's testimony.

GOP Lawmaker: FBI Told Me Russia Contributed To Last Year's Violence At Charlottesville Rally.

The Hill (8/11, Birnbaum, 2.71M) reported Rep. Tom Garrett (R-VA) on Saturday said FBI Director Wray told him Russian hackers contributed to "fomenting the flames of what happened in Charlottesville." Garrett, a member of the House Homeland Security and Foreign Affairs Committees, told CNN's "Newsroom" that he asked Wray in a closed session briefing two months ago if Russian meddling "had to do with fomenting the flames of what happened in Charlottesville. ... was told yes, it did."

Newsweek (8/11, Zogbi, 2.18M) quoted Garrett as saying, "This is what happens, Russian intermeddling is seeking to pit Americans against Americans to undermine confidence in Western-style Democracies. It's done so in the Baltic states, it's done so in Western Europe, it will continue to do so." Real Clear Politics (8/12, 749K) reports that Garrett added, "As a member of Homeland Security, that's what scares me most, that Americans will be pitted against Americans over real differences, but that are minimal in the grand scheme of things." Scarborough: Trump, GOP Showing "Disturbing Ambivalence Toward Russia's Attacks." Joe Scarborough wrote in the Washington Post (8/12, 15.68M) that "President Trump and his Republican Party are showing a disturbing ambivalence toward Russia's attacks on US democracy. ... Even after Trump's intelligence chiefs handed Republicans incontrovertible evidence of Russian malevolence, Trump dismissed the warnings as a hoax, the GOP House Intelligence Committee chairman secretly plotted against those leading the Russia investigation and Senate Republicans voted in lock step against a Democratic bill providing a stronger defense against future Russian attacks." Scarborough argued that "the forensic evidence proving Putin's cyberwar against the United States is so comprehensive that neither the president nor his sycophants in Congress deny in good faith that Russia has been coordinating attacks against the United States for years."

McAuliffe: "We Ought To Look At" Impeachment Of Trump.

Politico (8/12, Guida, 3.51M) reports former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe said Sunday that lawmakers should consider whether to impeach President Trump, "who he said has been 'bear-hugging' Russian President Vladimir Putin while the foreign leader attempts to undermine US democracy." Asked on CNN's State of the Union ☐ if Trump should be impeached, McAuliffe said, "I think that's something we ought to look at." He added, "There has to be a reason, Jake, why he is over there acting the way he acts about Putin, then inviting them here, and then saying he may go over there. Do not forget that they came into the 2016 election, they came in and tried to destroy the greatest democracy in the world. And now we're hearing this week that they're continuing their efforts. [Putin] is our enemy. We should fight him and quit bear-hugging him, like Trump likes to do."

Pelosi Doesn't Rule Out Impeaching Trump.

House Minority Leader Pelosi was asked on MSNBC's AM Joy ☐ (8/12, 881K) if Democrats will impeach the President if they win the House majority. Pelosi said, "When Democrats take the House we will seek the truth. We will have the power of subpoena. We want to get to the bottom of how the Russians undermined. We want to protect the integrity of our electoral system. We have to know the truth. The Republicans refuse to seek the truth by committee assignment, by establishing an outside independent commission and the President, of course, kowtows to Putin rather than respecting the consensus of his own intelligence agencies. So we

will seek the truth and where the truth takes us, well then we'll see."

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To:
Subject: FBI Public Affairs News Briefing Monday, August 13, 2018
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Mobile version and searchable archives available at fbi.bulletinintelligence.com.

FBI News Briefing



TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF
DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2018 6:30 AM EDT

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LEADING THE NEWS

Giuliani Says Trump Lawyers Are Prepared To Counter Mueller.

In an interview with the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/12, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), Trump attorney Rudy Giuliani said the President is open to talking to Special Counsel Robert Mueller under limited conditions. However, in a new development, Giuliani said Trump won't sit for an interview after Sept. 1 to avoid affecting the midterm elections. Meanwhile, Giuliani said Trump's legal team can survive a report from Mueller, and that the team is prepared to issue a counterreport in response.

Giuliani Says Trump Lawyers Have Negotiated With Mueller In Good Faith. Giuliani said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (8/12, 1.27M), "The reality is we've made a good-faith offer" to special counsel Robert Mueller. Giuliani added, "He did not reject it immediately, which is a good sign. I think that he would say we have negotiated with him in good faith. We have not given him all that he wants. We have not given him all that he would like of us. But there is a way that the President would take and answer questions. But we are just not going to subject him to what we call perjury traps. I kind of think of it as malpractice if we did." Giuliani said on [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (8/12, 932K) that the purpose of seeking to question the President is "to write up

some kind of perjury thing."

Giuliani: Trump Never Told Comey "Go Easy" On Michael Flynn. USA Today (8/12, Jackson, 11.4M) reports Giuliani said Sunday that the President "did not speak to then-FBI Director James Comey about an investigation into former aide Michael Flynn, a key point in an ongoing obstruction of justice investigation and the subject of changing stories." The New York Post (8/12, Moore, 4.46M) reports that if Trump agrees to be interviewed by Robert Mueller's investigators, "Giuliani said the President will flatly deny he told Comey to 'let this go.'"

Giuliani told CNN's State of the Union (8/12, Tapper, 932K), "There was no conversation about Michael Flynn. The President didn't find out that Comey believed there was until about, I think, it was February when it supposedly took place. Memo came out in May, and in between, Comey testified under oath, in no way had he been obstructed at any time. Then all of the sudden in May he says he felt obstructed. He felt pressured by that comment, 'You should go easy on Flynn,' so we maintain the president didn't say that."

The Washington Times (8/12, Howell, 460K) reports "CNN host Jake Tapper said Mr. Giuliani appeared to offer a different version in a July interview with ABC's This Week, when he said Mr. Trump asking Mr. Comey to give Mr. Flynn a break would be excusable." The New York Times (8/12, Haberman, 19.33M) says Giuliani's statement "appeared at odds with his own previous comments," noting his comments to ABC News' George Stephanopoulos. Politico (8/12, Guida, 3.51M) likewise says "Tapper referenced comments by Giuliani to ABC last month in which the attorney said Trump did not ask Comey to drop the investigation." Said Giuliani in July, "He didn't direct him to do that. What he said to him was, 'Can you give him a break?'"

Giuliani's interview with ABC wasn't the only time he appeared to confirm the Flynn conversation. He told Fox News on July 30 that Trump had asked Comey to "exercise his prosecutorial discretion" when it came to Flynn. State (8/12, 1.71M) says "Giuliani is backtracking and pretending he isn't."

Giuliani: Mueller "Bound" By DOJ Practice To Try To Complete Probe Before Election. Giuliani said on CNN's State Of The Union (8/12, 932K) Sunday that Mueller is "bound" by "a Justice Department practice" that "to the best you can, you shouldn't be carrying these things on right before an election." Giuliani added, "You can't carry on this investigation without a leak. I don't know who's doing it but maybe it's the special counsel, maybe it's some of the agents, maybe it's some of the defense lawyers. I don't know, but everything gets leaked or just about everything. You don't want to do what Comey did, which is to have some serious disclosure take place out of your control ten days before the election."

CNN White House reporter Kaitlin Collins said on CNN Inside Politics (8/12, 762K), "We see just how wrong Rudy Giuliani and Jay Sekulow can be when they are saying this is going to be brought to an end by September 1. It needs to be ended soon and then Robert Mueller subpoenas Randy Credico to testify on September 7. It just really goes to show how we're only hearing from the President's legal team's side on this and just how wrong they can be. Even Mueller and them aren't talking in public, we're seeing through their actions how they are responding to claims."

In an analysis, NPR (8/11, Ewing, 3.55M) reported that "Mueller may be running out of space to maneuver — or he may not. But the White House is calibrating its strategy as though a clock is ticking." According to NPR, Trump and the White House believe Mueller "doesn't want to make any major moves or announcements after Labor Day, because he's sensitive to criticism that he might improperly influence the midterm election." The article continued: "If that's so, Mueller has roughly three weeks to do whatever he's going to do and then — who knows? ... As usual, no one knows except him, and there is no independent statement from Mueller to suggest that he feels bound by any of these expectations."

Giuliani Calls NYTimes Reporter "Moron" Over Perjury Trap Comments. Fox News (8/12, 16.38M) reports that Giuliani "slammed as an 'idiot' a New York Times reporter during an interview Sunday on Fox News' 'Media Buzz,' saying it should be apparent that even honest clients run a major risk of falling into a so-called perjury trap if they agree to meet with federal investigators." Giuliani's comments came after the Times' Nicholas Confessore argued on MSNBC this week that Giuliani's concerns that Trump might be charged with lying to investigators if he met with Mueller's team revealed that "the president's story is wrong, it's a lie." Giuliani said on Fox: "I don't know if he's deliberately being like that or if he's a complete moron. The reality is, you can be accused of perjury when you're telling the absolute truth."

Sasse: "I'm Glad Mueller Is There" Leading Russia Probe. The Lincoln (NE) Journal Star (8/11, Walton, 243K) reported Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) "believes...Mueller is the right man for the job and that his investigation into Russian interference in America's 2016 presidential

election is providing a service to the country." In an interview, Sasse said, "We are really fortunate to have him leading this investigation." He noted that 25 foreign indictments already have been issued, and that's "a really big deal. ... And when you layer on what some of us who have participated in intelligence briefings know, it's even a bigger deal." He later added, "There's lots of big and important stuff coming out of the investigation. I'm glad Mueller is there."

Von Drehle: If Trump "Never Got Dirty" Working In Mob-Heavy Industries, He Has Nothing To Worry About From Mueller. In his Washington Post (8/10, Von Drehle, 15.68M) column, David Von Drehle asserted that "if it seems harsh to compare [Paul] Manafort to a mobster, take it up with President Trump," who "ought to know: He has spent plenty of time in mobbed-up milieus." He added that "as many journalists have documented...Trump's trail was blazed through one business after another notorious for corruption by organized crime." Von Drehle concluded "obviously, not everyone in these industries is corrupt, and if Donald Trump spent four decades rubbing elbows with wiseguys and never got dirty, he has nothing to worry about from special counsel Robert S. Mueller III. But does he look unworried to you?"

Trump Alleges "Media Coverup Of The Biggest Story Of Our Time."

President Trump tweeted Sunday morning, "'Seems like the Department of Justice (and FBI) had a program to keep Donald Trump from becoming President.' @DarrellIssa @foxandfriends If this had happened to the other side, everybody involved would be in jail. This is a Media coverup of the biggest story of our time."

In another tweet, the President wrote, "@JudgeJeanine 'Bob Mueller, isn't your whole investigation premised on a Fake Dossier, paid for by Hillary, created by a man who hates Donald Trump, & used to con a FISA Court Judge. Bob, I really think it's time for you to give up your phony investigation.' No Collusion!"

Trump Blasts DOJ, Sessions, Says He May "Get Involved." Bloomberg News (8/11, Sink, Mayeda, 4.46M) reported that a day earlier, Trump "accused his own attorney general of being 'scared stiff and missing in action' as the president continued to question whether officials in his administration have acted appropriately in probing the Trump campaign's Russian connections." The President tweeted, "The big story that the Fake News Media refuses to report is lowlife Christopher Steele's many meetings with Deputy A.G. Bruce Ohr" and Ohr's wife Nellie. He added, "I have never seen anything so Rigged in my life. Our A.G. is scared stiff and Missing in Action. It is all starting to be revealed--not pretty."

USA Today (8/11, Shesgreen, 11.4M) reported that Trump also "attacked the FBI Saturday for not turning over text messages written by Andrew McCabe, the agency's former deputy director, to a conservative group." Trump "suggested the FBI was 'hiding' something and threatened 'to get involved' in the law enforcement agency's handling of the text messages." He tweeted, "Why isn't the FBI giving Andrew McCabe text messages to Judicial Watch or appropriate governmental authorities. FBI said they won't give up even one (I may have to get involved, DO NOT DESTROY). What are they hiding? McCabe wife took big campaign dollars from Hillary people....."

The AP (8/12, Colvin; Horwitz) reports that President Trump "raged on Saturday, lashing out at his Justice Department on Twitter." Politico (8/11, Griffiths, 3.51M) said Trump "publicly castigated the Justice Department, the attorney general and the FBI, amplifying his allies' recent efforts to cast doubt on the Russia probe after remaining largely silent as the trial of his former campaign chairman progresses."

The New York Daily News (8/11, Schladebeck, 3.71M) had a similar report titled, "President Trump Rages Against FBI's Handling Of Andrew McCabe's 'Text Messages' In Typo Tweet." The article noted that Trump misspelled Nellie Ohr's name as "Nelly."

Trump: Bartiromo Says "No Evidence To Launch" Collusion Investigation. In an analysis, Washington Post (8/10, Bump, 15.68M) correspondent Philip Bump says Trump on Friday tweeted, "@MariaBartiromo 'No evidence to launch even an investigation into potential collusion between Donald Trump and the Russians - and here we are, a year and a half later.'" According to Bump, Trump's tweet "of course...was incorrect" and it "followed four on Thursday addressing the same subject. It was one of 10 tweets since Sunday."

Sekulow, Giuliani Defend Trump On Hannity's Radio Show, Fox & Friends. The Hill (8/10, Thomsen, 2.71M) reported Fox News host Sean Hannity on Friday tweeted that President Trump's attorneys Jay Sekulow and Rudy Giuliani "will be guest hosting for me today on radio... 'The depth of corruption that led to this investigation and that frankly continues to permeate this investigation is unprecedented...'"

Meanwhile, appearing on Fox News' Fox & Friends (8/10, 1.37M), Jay Sekulow said, "The biggest news of late has been the whole Bruce Ohr situation. So, you had the number four at the

United States Department of Justice, the number four...His wife happens to work for Fusion GPS, who happens to be retained to put together the dossier with Chris Steele. And Chris Steele happens to be talking to the FBI and to Bruce Ohr. ... Christopher Steele gets fired for leaking information, but Bruce Ohr continues the ongoing dialogue. ... Why in the world would this investigation have legitimacy at this point? It was really corrupt at its inception." Sekulow added, "So that plays into this calculus you make as to whether [President Trump] will submit to an interview" with Special Counsel Robert Mueller. According to Sekulow, Mueller's team has "not made the constitutional case to speak to the President."

Graham Calls For Special Counsel To Investigate FBI. The New York Post (8/12, Schwab, 4.46M) reports Sen. Lindsey Graham said Sunday it was "at least unethical" for a Department of Justice official to be investigating President Trump while his wife was working for the opposition research firm that produced the Steele dossier. Graham "took issue with Bruce Ohr for being involved in the Trump-Russia probe before it was turned over to special counsel Robert Mueller because his wife, Nellie Ohr, worked for Fusion GPS during the 2016 election cycle." During an appearance on Fox News Sunday, the Republican senator also called for a special counsel be named to investigate the Justice Department and the FBI.

Breitbart (8/12, Key, 1.28M) quotes Graham as saying, "The criminal investigation of the Clinton campaign was a joke. When it came to the Trump campaign, it was corrupt, it was biased and I think unethical. Mr. Ohr should not have had any role in investigating the Trump campaign because his wife worked at Fusion GPS. ... We need a special counsel to look at all things Department of Justice and FBI when it came to the Trump investigation, particularly the counterintelligence investigation."

Asked about Ohr, House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes (R-CA) said on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M), "He has been the go-between Christopher Steele...and Glenn Simpson – remember he was working for Fusion GPS, who are working for the Clinton campaign. ... A lot of this information wasn't shared with the FISA court, especially because of the fact that Christopher Steele was desperate that Donald Trump not become President. After that happened, Bruce Ohr, one of the top lawyers in the Department of Justice, kept continually meeting and providing information from Christopher Steele to who? The FBI. This is just madness. The American people need to know it, and...the fact that the media is ignoring this is even more of a reason that we're going to have to have more information than usual declassified. We're going to have to have I think an unprecedented amount of information declassified because the media is just not covering this topic."

Emails Contradict Fusion GPS Founder's Claims About His Contact With Top DOJ Official. The Daily Caller (8/10, 420K) reported that Fusion GPS founder Glenn Simpson "told House investigators last year that he only met Department of Justice official Bruce Ohr after the 2016 election." However, "Ohr's records show that he was in contact with Simpson as early as August 2016." The DC pointed out that Ohr's wife, Nellie Ohr, "worked for Fusion GPS on the Steele dossier project." In addition, Bruce Ohr, "who was demoted from his position as associate deputy attorney general in December, maintained contact with Steele even after the FBI cut ties with...former MI6 officer" Christopher Steele "over his unauthorized disclosures to the media." The Daily Caller noted that the Washington Examiner "reported on Wednesday that Simpson sent an email with the subject line 'Can u ring' to Ohr on Aug. 22, 2016," and "Ohr's log shows he had contact of some sort with Simpson on that day."

McCabe Sues FBI, DOJ For Wrongful Termination, Defamation. Fox News (8/12, 16.38M) reported that former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe is suing the DOJ, FBI for wrongful termination and defamation. Fox's Ed Henry said McCabe was fired in March "for leaking information to the media, and then more importantly perhaps, lying to investigators about it. That's the allegation." In a 36-page lawsuit, McCabe discussing wanting to get documents from the Justice Department and the FBI to explain more about his firing.

Milbank: Nunes Advocating For Impeachment Of Wrong Administration Official. In his Washington Post (8/10, Milbank, 15.68M) column, Dana Milbank asserted Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein "must have done something truly and utterly horrible" for House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes and other Republicans to advocate for his impeachment, "because these guys don't impeach just anybody. In fact, they impeach nobody. Until now they hadn't given a moment's thought to impeaching a single member of the Trump administration." He cited a number of examples and quips "what Rosenstein has done must be worse than all that, and worse than the behaviors of Michael Cohen, Donald Trump Jr., Paul Manafort and Rick Gates that inspire no curiosity among House Republican investigators."

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Descriptions Of Ohr, Page Follow A Pattern. In an analysis, the New York Times (8/12, Haberman, 19.33M) reports that President Trump "affixed

special descriptions" to tweets complaining about women connected to the Russia investigation. Trump described Nellie Ohr, the wife of former Deputy Attorney General Bruce Ohr as "beautiful" and former FBI attorney as "lovely." The Times says those descriptions "reflected his intense interest in physical appearances and his clear disdain for both." His "commentary on their looks was in keeping with a long-running tendency by Mr. Trump," who "has attacked women who criticize him as having faces 'like a dog,'" and "denied accusations of unwanted sexual advances toward women by telling people to 'look at her.'" Trump "has also denigrated the physical appearance of female political rivals."

Judge Holds Former Stone Aide In Contempt Of Court.

The AP (8/10, Horwitz) reported that Andrew Miller, identified as "an associate of former Trump campaign adviser Roger Stone," was held in contempt of court on Friday following "a fresh attempt to challenge Robert Mueller's appointment." Miller's attorney, Paul Kamenar, "argued after the proceedings that Mueller's appointment is unconstitutional," and "asserted that Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein did not have the authority to appoint Mueller to lead the investigation into Trump campaign contacts with Russia." According to Kamenar, "a prosecutor with powers as broad as Mueller's should be treated like a U.S. attorney and be subject to Senate confirmation." Politico (8/10, Cheney, 3.51M) reported that Kamenar "emphasized that Miller had already been interviewed by two FBI agents and largely cooperated with Mueller's investigation, including on document requests. But he said Miller drew the line at a grand jury appearance."

Reuters (8/10) reported that Miller's "refusal to comply with the subpoena from Mueller's office prompted a sealed hearing before a federal judge, who then made the ruling." CBS News (8/10, Watson, 6.78M) quoted Kamenar as telling reporters afterwards that the "government wanted to hold him in contempt. We agreed and the reason we agreed is that in order to appeal Judge Howell's... decision, challenging the constitutionality of the special counsel," you "have to have a contempt order in order to go to the court of appeals."

Bloomberg News (8/10, McLaughlin, 4.46M) said Mueller "has been focusing in recent months on Stone," and "issued subpoenas in May to John Kakanis, a former driver for Stone, and Jason Sullivan, who did social media and administrative work for a political action committee run by Stone in July and August of 2016." According to Bloomberg, Miller, "who runs a St. Louis house-painting business, hasn't worked for Stone for three years...except for one week of the Republican National Convention, when he came in to coordinate Stone's schedule."

The Washington Post (8/10, Hsu, Barrett, 15.68M) reported that "a hearing transcript from June 18 shows Miller was subpoenaed for information about Stone as well as key figures in the 2016 hacking of the Democratic National Committee, and the public release of Democrats' emails during the campaign." In addition, the subpoena "seeks information from Miller about...WikiLeaks and its leader, Julian Assange," and "about Guccifer 2.0 and DCLeaks," which "investigators say both were online fronts invented by Russian intelligence operatives to spread the hacked documents," according to the Post. The Wall Street Journal (8/10, Gurman, Holliday, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) said it has seen emails from Stone to New York radio host Randy Credico asking him to reach out to Assange for information that would help Trump to hurt Hillary Clinton's campaign.

On the CBS Evening News (8/10, story 3, 2:30, Glor, 5.25M), Paula Reid reported that "Stone and Trump have enjoyed a decades-long friendship, but now he has come under scrutiny for Mueller because of public statement he's made during the 2016 campaign." In a front-page article, the New York Times (8/10, Feuer, 19.33M) said Stone "appears to be engaged in his stiffest fight yet: the one for his own legal future." The Times adds the "stream of developments" on Friday "underscored his peril."

CNN (8/10, Herb, Robinson, Polantz, 82.6M) said that while Stone hasn't been contacted by Mueller's office, "he appears to be under investigation as part of the probe into Russian election interference and possible collusion between Trump's team and Russian officials." Stone "appears to be cited, though not by name, in the last month's special counsel indictment of 12 Russian intelligence officers for hacking the Democratic National Committee. Stone was not charged in the indictment." Breitbart (8/10, Caplan, 1.28M) reported that in May, Stone told NBC host Chuck Todd that he anticipates being indicted. However, he added, "I can guarantee you they have found no evidence whatsoever of Russian collusion, nor trafficking of allegedly hacked emails with WikiLeaks."

DNC Serves WikiLeaks Via Twitter. The Hill (8/10, Bowden, 2.71M) reported lawyers for the Democratic National Committee on Friday served WikiLeaks "with a lawsuit via Twitter, accusing the site of working with the Trump campaign and Russia to swing the 2016 election in President Trump's favor." The Hill said that "the move came Friday after CBS News reported that

multiple attempts by DNC lawyers to serve legal documents to WikiLeaks representatives by email were met with no response."

Late GOP Operative Made "Suspicious" Cash Withdrawals While Seeking Clinton Emails, Documents Show. BuzzFeed News (8/10, Leopold, Cormier) "reviewed documents showing that FBI agents and congressional investigators have zeroed in on transactions" that Republican activist Peter Smith "made right as his effort to procure Clinton's emails heated up." According to BuzzFeed, "The money trail, made public here for the first time, sheds new light on Smith's effort, in which he told people he was in touch with both Russians on the dark web and Trump campaign officials -- particularly Michael Flynn, who was then a top adviser to the Trump campaign and later served as national security adviser before having to resign after misleading White House officials about his meetings with the Russian ambassador to the United States." However, BuzzFeed says "Smith is dead, and his lawyer, former business partner, and wife did not respond to numerous requests for an interview."

Manafort Trial Slowed By Disputes Between Prosecutors And Judge.

The AP (8/10, Braun, Day, Kellman) reported that at the Paul Manafort trial on Friday, "a bank executive testified that he was pressured for political reasons to give more than \$16 million in loans to" Manafort. The AP said the trial "resumed Friday afternoon after unexpected delays" that "left uncertain whether prosecutors could wrap up their case against Manafort before the weekend, as had been expected." According to the AP, US District Judge T.S. Ellis III "called a recess without explanation after huddling with attorneys from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's office and Manafort's lawyers for more than 20 minutes," and subsequently "strongly reminded jurors that they weren't to discuss the tax evasion and bank fraud case with anyone."

The AP (8/10, Braun; Day; Kellman) reported that the "mysterious backstage discussions between the judge and attorneys for both sides" were "a strange hiccup in nine days of proceedings that have featured tense exchanges between prosecutors and admittedly impatient U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis III as he has pushed the government to speed up its case."

In fact, Bloomberg News (8/10, Voreacos, Harris, Flatley, Maki, 4.46M) reported that prosecutors "filed another grievance on Friday over the judge's criticism of prosecutor Uzo Asonye after a Citizens Bank employee testified about Manafort's failed attempt to get a \$5.5 million construction loan for a Brooklyn property using a doctored profit-and-loss statement. ... 'You might want to spend time on a loan that was granted,' Ellis told Asonye." However, prosecutors pointed out that they "don't need to establish that conspirators were successful to win a conviction for bank fraud conspiracy," and complained that "the judge's remark...is likely to sow confusion among the jurors about the merits of that charge."

In an online video, USA Today (8/11, 11.4M) reported that prosecutors say they expect to rest their case Monday. CNN (8/12, Herb, Polantz, 82.6M) reports that over the nine days of trial so far, prosecutors have "appeared to operate with an overarching goal: Connect the dots between the criminal charges against the former Trump campaign chairman." The "voluminous documents, testimony corroborated witness by witness, and Manafort's own emails suggest" Manafort's defense team won't be able to overcome the charges. That "could have wide-ranging implications for the Trump administration and President Donald Trump himself. The outcome of the case could have major implications for the public's perception of Mueller's ongoing probe of Russian interference in the 2016 election. ... In turn, the courtroom result is likely to affect how Trump's team reacts to Mueller."

In a more than 1,900-word front-page article, the Washington Post (8/10, A1, Helderman, Weiner, Fisher, 15.68M) reported that "as Manafort's trial on tax and bank fraud charges enters its home stretch, emails and other documents submitted as evidence show that the man who had taken on the enormous task of turning around a troubled presidential campaign was at the same time carrying out what prosecutors portray as a global fraud scheme." The Post added "at the least, the documents make clear that despite the heavy demands of the campaign, Manafort was also busy maneuvering to salvage his own finances, with an eye toward building a new phase of his career."

The New York Times (8/12, Lafraniere, Vogel, Haberman, 19.33M) reports that Manafort's trial "underscores questions about how someone in such deep financial trouble rose to the top of the Trump campaign, spreading a stain that has touched the president's innermost circle." According to the Times, the "formidable parade of more than 20 witnesses and hundreds of exhibits" has also "further eroded the notion, advanced by President Trump," that Special Counsel Robert Mueller is on a "witch hunt."

Meanwhile, in her Washington Post (8/10, Marcus, 15.68M) column, Ruth Marcus speculated about why Manafort did not cooperate with prosecutors "given the strength of the documentary

evidence." Marcus suggests that perhaps Manafort "is angling for a presidential pardon. But even assuming Trump is willing to commit an act so blatantly self-interested, if not outright corrupt, a pardoned Manafort could still be compelled to testify, and prosecuted for any ensuing perjury unless Trump is so brazen as to prospectively pardon that conduct as well." However, Marcus added "the mystery – a mystery to me at least – is comprehending the magnitude of Manafort's greed." She concludes "It does not seem far-fetched to ask if there is anything else – or to think that, if there is, Mueller and his team already know it. Which might explain, at least in part, the president's evident and growing agitation."

In her Washington Post (8/10, Applebaum, 15.68M) column, Anne Applebaum warned "America's federal institutions are not the only ones designed to prevent someone like Trump from undermining the Constitution." She adds "We have other kinds of institutions, too – legal organs, regulatory bodies, banks – that are supposed to prevent men like Trump from staying in business, let alone acquiring political power. The truth is that many of these equally important American institutions failed a long time ago. Trump is not the cause of their failure. He is the result." According to Applebaum, "Some of that institutional failure is on display at the trial of Paul Manafort." She concludes "Listen closely as Manafort's trial unfolds: Long before Trump got to Washington, and long before Manafort helped him get there, judicial and law enforcement institutions failed to stop them. Are you still sure that there is no need to worry?"

Federal Savings Banker Says CEO Wanted Cabinet Post. The Wall Street Journal (8/10, Viswanatha, Corse, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reported that on Friday, former Federal Savings Bank mortgage salesman Dennis Raico testified at former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort's trial on tax and bank fraud allegations, saying he had been "uncomfortable" about extending \$16 million in loans to Manafort because Stephen Calk, the bank's CEO, was trying to get appointed to the Trump Administration. According to Raico, Calk had asked him to call Manafort and ask about a role as head of Treasury or Housing and Urban Development.

Bloomberg News (8/12, Voreacos, 4.46M) reports that Calk himself is "under scrutiny by Special Counsel Robert Mueller for a bank fraud conspiracy and other unspecified crimes." Prosecutor Greg Andres said Friday at a sidebar conference that Calk "is a co-conspirator" with Manafort, "and he participated in the conspiracy to defraud the bank." Bloomberg News says Calk "served as an economic adviser to Trump's campaign," though he has not "been charged with a crime and may never be." Indeed, Andres at one point "appeared to backtrack on his suggestion that Calk participated in Manafort's alleged scheme to defraud the bank."

American Banker (8/10, Subscription Publication, 22K) reported similarly on Raico's testimony.

GOP Lawmaker: FBI Told Me Russia Contributed To Last Year's Violence At Charlottesville Rally.

The Hill (8/11, Birnbaum, 2.71M) reported Rep. Tom Garrett (R-VA) on Saturday said FBI Director Wray told him Russian hackers contributed to "fomenting the flames of what happened in Charlottesville." Garrett, a member of the House Homeland Security and Foreign Affairs Committees, told CNN's "Newsroom" that he asked Wray in a closed session briefing two months ago if Russian meddling "had to do with fomenting the flames of what happened in Charlottesville. ... was told yes, it did."

Newsweek (8/11, Zogbi, 2.18M) quoted Garrett as saying, "This is what happens, Russian intermeddling is seeking to pit Americans against Americans to undermine confidence in Western-style Democracies. It's done so in the Baltic states, it's done so in Western Europe, it will continue to do so." Real Clear Politics (8/12, 749K) reports that Garrett added, "As a member of Homeland Security, that's what scares me most, that Americans will be pitted against Americans over real differences, but that are minimal in the grand scheme of things."

Scarborough: Trump, GOP Showing "Disturbing Ambivalence Toward Russia's Attacks." Joe Scarborough wrote in the Washington Post (8/12, 15.68M) that "President Trump and his Republican Party are showing a disturbing ambivalence toward Russia's attacks on US democracy. ... Even after Trump's intelligence chiefs handed Republicans incontrovertible evidence of Russian malevolence, Trump dismissed the warnings as a hoax, the GOP House Intelligence Committee chairman secretly plotted against those leading the Russia investigation and Senate Republicans voted in lock step against a Democratic bill providing a stronger defense against future Russian attacks." Scarborough argued that "the forensic evidence proving Putin's cyberwar against the United States is so comprehensive that neither the president nor his sycophants in Congress deny in good faith that Russia has been coordinating attacks against the United States for years."

McAuliffe: "We Ought To Look At" Impeachment Of Trump. Politico (8/12, Guida, 3.51M) reports former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe said Sunday that lawmakers should consider whether to impeach President Trump, "who he said has been 'bear-hugging' Russian President Vladimir Putin while the foreign leader attempts to undermine US democracy." Asked on CNN's State of the Union if Trump should be impeached, McAuliffe said, "I think that's something we ought to look at." He added, "There has to be a reason, Jake, why he is over there acting the way he acts about Putin, then inviting them here, and then saying he may go over there. Do not forget that they came into the 2016 election, they came in and tried to destroy the greatest democracy in the world. And now we're hearing this week that they're continuing their efforts. [Putin] is our enemy. We should fight him and quit bear-hugging him, like Trump likes to do."

Pelosi Doesn't Rule Out Impeaching Trump. House Minority Leader Pelosi was asked on MSNBC's AM Joy (8/12, 881K) if Democrats will impeach the President if they win the House majority. Pelosi said, "When Democrats take the House we will seek the truth. We will have the power of subpoena. We want to get to the bottom of how the Russians undermined. We want to protect the integrity of our electoral system. We have to know the truth. The Republicans refuse to seek the truth by committee assignment, by establishing an outside independent commission and the President, of course, kowtows to Putin rather than respecting the consensus of his own intelligence agencies. So we will seek the truth and where the truth takes us, well then we'll see."

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Rogue Airline Employee Who Crashed Stolen Horizon Air Turboprop Identified As Richard Russell.

More details came to light Saturday about the incident at Sea-Tac International Airport on Friday evening, where a ground service agent who worked for Horizon Air, the sister airline of Alaska Airlines, stole an empty Bombardier Dash 8 – Q400 turboprop, took off from the airport, and then crashed on Ketron Island in the Puget Sound. The employee, a baggage handler and member of the ground crew who had previously been identified as a mechanic, has now been named as 29-year-old Richard Russell. He died in the crash despite attempts by air traffic control to help land the aircraft. The story quickly received national attention, with all three of the networks leading their Saturday broadcasts with coverage of the investigation into the incident, along with the major print dailies, wires, and various other outlets.

ABC World News Tonight (8/11, lead story, 3:00, Johnson, 4.75M) broadcast in its lead story that after Russell's surprise takeoff from Sea-Tac International around 7:32 p.m., he performed "loops and rolls high in the sky before crashing 30 miles away" from the airport, about "75 minutes after takeoff." According to the broadcast, Russell had "passed background checks and had worked for Horizon for three-and-a-half years, even posting about his job on YouTube." While two F-15 fighter jets were scrambled from Oregon and quickly caught up to the Q400, ready to shoot it down just in case, the incident raises other security issues. For instance, "commercial airplanes do not have door locks or ignition keys," the broadcast said, and "experts say they can be easily started using a checklist." The following story by ABC World News Tonight (8/11, story 2, 1:10, Johnson, 4.75M) broadcast featured comments from ABC News contributor Col. Steve Ganyard, a former Marines fighter pilot. Ganyard said, "This is not just some guy that jumped the fence at Sea-Tac, ran out, and stole an airplane. This was a trusted employee, and he used that trust to gain access to the airplane." For Ganyard, this is a "suicide" that Russell "went so far as to premeditate...by learning how to start, taxi, take off, and fly this airplane around just to commit his suicide plan."

The CBS Weekend News (8/11, lead story, 2:40, Morgan, 1.24M) broadcast in its lead story that the investigation into the incident is focused not only on how Russell was able to do what he did, but why. For now, "his motives are not known," although terrorism is not high on the list and, like Ganyard, some officials have described Russell's actions as suicidal. In the recorded radio conversation between Russell and the air traffic control agent, Russell says he was a "broken guy." NTSB Western Pacific Region Chief Debra Eckrote said, "We're lucky" the crash happened "on a very unpopulated island" rather than Puget Sound itself.

The Washington Post (8/11, Miroff, Horton, 15.68M) reports Russell's "radio chatter" with air traffic control is peppered with sometimes odd comments about "the whereabouts of an orca whale and her dead calf," for instance, or "what would happen if he tried to do a 'backflip' with the plane he had stolen." While Russell is the only person who died or was injured in the incident, "the stunning heist...has heightened worries about gaps in American aviation security, forcing

questions about how Russell, a baggage handler and grounds crew member, could take control of the aircraft, get it in the air and fly it willy-nilly over a major U.S. metropolitan area for nearly an hour." While "federal officials released few details Saturday about the hijacking," airline officials revealed Russell would have been "familiar with the towing tractors that move aircraft on the tarmac," which he "used...to back the plane out of a maintenance area, then climbed into the cockpit and roared down the runway."

NBC Nightly News (8/11, lead story, 3:00, Snow, 4.46M) broadcast in its lead story that airline security expert Jeff Price said, "There might need to be a procedure in place" going forward "where, if you're not a pilot or flight attendant, you're not allowed on the plane unless there is someone there that is responsible for the aircraft." The Washington Post (8/11, Horton, Miroff, 15.68M) reports in another story that Mary Schiavo, a former inspector general with the Department of Transportation, says ground crew members and airline mechanics are scrutinized far less than other airline employees. Furthermore, Schiavo says the security for smaller airlines and aircraft "can be a little more casual and a little loosey-goosey, especially if they are doing overnight maintenance." Also, on Friday the FBI's Seattle field office, which is leading the investigation, "said early signs do not point toward terrorism." Pierce County Sheriff Paul Pastor described Russell's actions as a "joyride gone terribly wrong."

The New York Times (8/11, Fortin, Caron, 19.33M) reports Alaska Air Group CEO Brad Tilden said in a statement, "I want to share how incredibly sad all of us at Alaska are about this incident. Our heart is heavy for the family and friends of the person involved." The Times quotes Eckrote as saying that ground service agents "don't necessarily use a key, so there's switches that they use to start the aircraft," and so "they probably do have at least a basic understanding on how to start the aircraft." On the other hand, Horizon Air Industries CEO Gary Beck said on Saturday that "To our knowledge he did not have a pilot's license," adding that "Commercial aircrafts are complex machines. I don't know how he achieved the experience he did." The Wall Street Journal (8/11, Greene, Tangel, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports Beck said Russell was able to pull off impressive aviation maneuvers given his lack of experience, which will be one of the things investigators examine. Another story by the Wall Street Journal (8/12, Sider, Pasztor, Greene, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports Russell indicated he had spent time using flight simulator software, but experts say he demonstrated a surprising level of control over the aircraft considering the maneuvers he put it through and the fact that he knew how to engage autopilot.

The AP (8/11, La Corte, Ridler) reports that White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "said Saturday morning that President Donald Trump is 'monitoring the situation.'" The AP (8/11) also reports in a feed of updates on the story that "Trump has been briefed on the man." Sanders also "commended the response effort for its 'swift action' and public safety protection." USA Today (8/11, Stanglin, Ventura, Hayes, 11.4M) reports online that Washington Gov. Jay Inslee said, "I want to thank the Air National Guard from Washington and Oregon for scrambling jets to keep Washingtonians safe. Those pilots are trained for moments like tonight and showed they are ready and capable."

USA Today (8/11, Jansen, 11.4M) reports online about how "exceedingly rare" pilot suicides are, with "only a handful of airline-pilot suicides" having been "reported among airlines worldwide in recent decades." For context, the story says FAA "guides 42,000 airline and private flights each day, or nearly 16 million in 2016." Furthermore, "with no passengers aboard, the Seattle incident was similar to a general-aviation accident, where a single pilot crashes a private plane alone. But even those accidents are declining."

The Seattle Times (8/11, Beekman, Baruchman, 1.15M) reports in another story about the air traffic controllers who found themselves "negotiating with a ground-crew member flying upside down above Puget Sound." Commenting on the particular controller who tried to guide Russell to a safe landing place, former FAA official Walt Smith says the controller deployed his "calm, prudent and mature voice to help settle down the individual," adding that the controller "performed brilliantly to mitigate risks." NATCA also released a statement praising the work of air traffic control.

There is an extensive amount of coverage of the incident coming in from outlets the world over, including the Puget Sound (WA) Business Journal (8/11, Subscription Publication, 858K), Fox News (8/11, Joyce, 16.38M), the Sacramento (CA) Bee (8/11, 470K), MarketWatch (8/11, Li, 1.49M), GeekWire (8/12, Boyle, 71K), the Oregonian (8/11, Campuzano, 815K), Wired (8/11, Marshall, 3.25M), The Guardian (UK) (8/12, Pulkkinen, 4.03M), the Daily Intelligencer (NY) (8/11, Danner, 551K), the Press Association (UK) (8/11), the Huffington Post (UK) (8/11, 45K), the Independent (UK) (8/11, 1.35M), AFP (8/11), the Independent (UK) (8/11, Batchelor, 1.35M), the Daily Mail (UK) (8/11, Sheets, 3.93M), the Aviation International News (8/11,

Finfrock), the Points Guy (8/11, Murph, 86K), View From The Wing (8/11), the Aviationist (8/11, Demerly), Bro Bible (8/11, 165K), Digg (8/11, 359K), the AVweb (8/11), WIMS-AM South Shore, IN (8/11), KUTV-TV Salt Lake City (8/11, 77K), KSL-TV Salt Lake City (8/11, 490K), KDFW-TV Dallas (8/11, 149K), WTVR-TV Richmond, VA (8/11, 147K), Pop Culture Media (8/11), and Twitchy (8/11, 52K).

Federal Investigators To "Review Every Aspect Of This Incident," FBI Says.

Reuters (8/11, O'Brien, Dobuzinskis) reports the FBI is leading the federal investigation into the incident, releasing a statement that "We are going to be thorough, which means taking the time needed to scour the area, delve into the background of the individual believed responsible, and review every aspect of this incident with all appropriate public & private partners." As for airport security measures, Tilden told the press after Friday's event that "the setup in aviation in America is we secure the airfield and then we have the mindset that we have employees that are credentialed and authorized to be there."

The Seattle Times (8/11, Bernton, Gates, Beekman, 1.15M) reports in another story that the FBI is "working with the National Transportation Safety Board, the FAA, the airlines, the Port of Seattle, which operates the airport, and state and local authorities." Russell not only "underwent criminal background checks to get hired" but was "fully credentialed to be inside secure areas and certified to tow aircraft around the tarmac." As former FAA administrator Michael Huerta says, "Security is something that is taken very very seriously, and this clearly was a serious breach," so "It won't surprise me if steps are taken to change protocol or put additional steps in place. ... The insider threat is something that is taken seriously." The Times also reports on the moments preceding takeoff, with the "controller repeatedly demanding identification from a Bombardier turboprop lining up on the runway" at one of the nation's busiest airports, as well as the level of aviation skills required to pull off what Russell did in the air, particularly the barrel roll maneuver, without crashing spectacularly.

The Seattle Times (8/11, 1.15M) reports in another story that NTSB dispatched a team to Ketron Island Saturday to retrieve the flight-data recorder and cockpit recorder from what Eckrote described as a "highly fragmented" plane wreck. Eckrote comments that "We already have the air traffic and pilot communications, but he might have been talking to himself in the cockpit and they might be able to get some additional information so that's where that's valuable." Eckrote also "said the investigation will focus on the man who stole the plane to determine his motives" and that "investigators would search the man's home and speak to his family and friends."

The Tacoma (WA) News Tribune (8/11, Sailor, Cockrell, 198K) reports that the findings of the investigation "will almost certainly lead to changes in aviation protocols." While Russell "appeared to be suicidal. ... the potential for a disaster, if Rich had wished to harm others, is sobering." Not only did Russell fly the Q400 over "highly populated residential and commercial areas," but a Pearl Jam concert was also taking place at Safeco Field. When it comes to learning how to fly, "a pilot who regularly flies in and out of Sea-Tac for a commercial carrier said on Friday that an employee who was 'taxi qualified' could combine that knowledge with YouTube videos and easily purchased computer flight simulator programs to learn to fly an airplane."

CNN (8/11, Sanchez, 82.6M) reports CNN aviation analyst Justin Green says, "If this pilot, instead of doing what he ended up doing, had wanted to crash the airplane into downtown Seattle, the fighter (jets) were not going to be able to stop him; air traffic control was not going to stop him," so "This has to be a major, major issue."

Fox News (8/11, Gearty, 16.38M) reports online that former FBI agent Erroll Southers told the Associated Press that "The greatest threat we have to aviation is the insider threat," and "Here we have an employee who was vetted to the level to have access to the aircraft and had a skill set proficient enough to take off with that plane."

NBC News (8/11, 5.76M) reports online that TSA "started running 'real-time, recurring background checks for aviation workers, including airline workers' after an Atlanta baggage handler was discovered smuggling weapons in 2015." But as Sea-Tac International's director of operations, Mike Ehl, says, "The individual was fully credentialed. He had access to that area legitimately. It's inside the security fence so no security violations were committed."

KUTV-TV Salt Lake City (8/11, 77K) reports online that "this weekend's plane theft in Washington state has left some wondering if it could happen in Utah." The story says that "according to an aviation instructor," Tarik Almageeb, "Salt Lake International and other airports follow the same Federal Aviation Administration mandated rules regarding background checks and medical checks."

Profiles Of "A Broken Guy" Emerge In Wake Of Unauthorized Flight. USA Today (8/11, Hayes, 11.4M) reports online about Richard Russell, who also went by the nickname

"Beebo." In the audio recording with air traffic control, Russell described himself as "just a broken guy." One of his former coworkers, Rick Christenson, says, "He was a quiet guy. It seemed like he was well liked by the other workers. ... It's chilling listening to this young man. It makes me cringe. It was hard to sleep last night." [USA Today](#) (8/11, 11.4M) also carries audio from Russell's "final moments as he talks back and forth with air traffic control."

[Fortune](#) (8/11, Morris, 3.91M) reports that "in one key passage" from the audio recording, Russell "seemed to confirm his suicidal mindset, saying: 'I've got a lot of people that care about me. It's going to disappoint them to hear that I did this. I would like to apologize to each and every one of them. ... Got a few screws loose I guess. Never really knew it, until now.'" Fortune also poignantly observes, "The dramatic incident punctuates a stark rise in suicides in the United States. Anyone experiencing suicidal thoughts or urges can reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255)."

[CNN](#) (8/11, Chavez, Hanna, LeBien, 82.6M) reports Russell's family released a statement Saturday saying, "This is a complete shock to us," and "We are devastated by these events, and Jesus is truly the only one holding this family together right now."

[Fox News](#) (8/12, 16.38M) reports Russell "was from Wasilla, Alaska, and lived in Sumner, Wash., and married in 2012." The [Mat-Su Valley \(AK\) Frontiersman](#) (8/11, Bartz, 20K) reports Gary Howell, "the longtime Wasilla High School track and field coach" who used to coach Russell, reacted by saying, "No, not Beebo. This is not the Beebo I know. Not the Beebo I know period."

The Economist: "Risk Of Accidents Due To Suicidal Employees Has Remained High." [The Economist](#) (8/11, 2.35M) "Gulliver" blog appears to sympathize with Russell, "a lonely, likeable man" who "refused to attempt a runway landing for fear he might cause ground casualties." The Economist compares Russell's last flight favorably to a similar incident in 2015, where the pilot of Germanwings Flight 9525 set the plane's course on a controlled descent straight into the side of a mountain in the French Alps, killing everyone. Still, the Economist says that "whatever their motives, rogue airline employees present a unique threat to global security," as "the airline industry knows that the risk of accidents due to suicidal employees has remained high."

Authorities Continue Investigation Into Seattle Plane Theft. In continuing coverage of the Horizon Airlines Q400 stolen from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport and crash landed on a small island in Puget Sound, [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/12, story 3, 2:05, Llamas, 4.65M) reported that authorities are "trying to learn how Richard Russell, with no apparent training, was able to climb into the cockpit and take off." Horizon CEO Gary Beck said Russell was able to perform "incredible maneuvers with the aircraft," and Russell told an air traffic controller he did not need help because "I've played video games before, so I know what I'm doing a little bit. I know how to put the landing gear down." ABC reports the FBI has determined that Russell was not a terrorist. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/12, story 4, 2:05, Quijano, 1.72M) reported that 75 flights were delayed, five flights were cancelled, and nine flights were diverted as a result of the incident. CBS features a clip of Beck saying of Russell's flight, "We don't know how he was able to do that. We don't know how he learned to do that."


[NBC Nightly News](#) (8/12, story 4, 1:55, Snow, 5.26M) reported that the theft is "now prompting concerns about the potential for a so-called insider attack" and has uncovered "a troubling security gap where thousands of workers have the same broad access Russell had."

[Fox News](#) (8/13, 16.38M) reported that the FBI has recovered the aircraft's cockpit voice recorder from the crash site, and the National Transportation Safety Board is "processing the data." Debra Eckrote, the Western Pacific regional chief for the National Transportation Safety Board, said of the crashed aircraft, "The wings are off, the fuselage is, I think, kind of positioned upside down." Erroll Southers, a former FBI agent and transportation security expert, said, "The greatest threat we have to aviation is the insider threat." [CNN International](#) (8/12) reports Eckrote said of the crash site, "You couldn't even tell it was a plane except for some of the bigger sections, like the wing section." She added, "Even the small sections, most of it doesn't resemble a plane." CNN mentions that while F-15s were scrambled to intercept Russell, they did not "bring the plane down."

[ABC News](#) (8/13, Osborne, 1.85M) reports that in addition to the recovery of "the flight data recorder and 'components' of the cockpit voice recorder," the FBI "reported human remains were found as well." While the "assumption is they are the remains of Russell, they have yet to be officially confirmed by the medical examiner." The [AP](#) (8/13, 15.68M) reports, "The Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed Sunday that Russell had died in the fiery wreckage, but whether the crash was deliberate or accidental was one of several topics remaining for investigators."

Additional coverage was provided by KOMO-TV Seattle (WA) Seattle (8/10, 346K), Atlanta (GA) Journal-Constitution (8/12, 1.09M), Newsy (8/13), and The Atlantic (8/12, 3.08M).

Rascal Flatts Concert Interrupted By Bomb Scare.

 ABC World News Tonight (8/10, story 11, 0:20, Llamas, 7.37M) reported a Rascal Flatts concert in Noblesville, Indiana was interrupted Friday over what concert promoter Live Nation described as a safety concern. Security officials rushed the band members off the stage and concert attendees were "told to leave the venue, reportedly because of a bomb threat." An investigation has been launched.

US Officials: Suspected Eco-Terrorist Apprehended In Cuba.

On its website, NBC News (8/11, Romero, 5.76M) reported federal officials announced that 50-year-old Joseph Mahmoud Dibee, a "fugitive described by the FBI as a 'domestic terrorist'" who "has been on the run for a dozen years," was "handed over to U.S. law enforcement Friday by Cuba, where he was planning on boarding a plane to Russia, authorities said." In a statement, the Cuban Foreign Ministry confirmed Dibee "was apprehended and turned over Thursday in 'compliance with its international legal obligations and existing bilateral agreements with the United States.'" Dibee and four co-conspirators are accused of setting "fire to a meat packing plant in Redmond, Oregon, on July 21, 1997, burning it to the ground and causing \$1.2 million in damage, the U.S. Attorney in Oregon, Billy Williams, told reporters in Portland Friday." Dibee has also been accused of involvement in a crime spree linked "to the eco-terrorism group Earth Liberation Front (ELF) and Animal Liberation Front, federal officials said."

The Seattle Times (8/10, 1.15M) reported, "In an initial court appearance Friday in U.S. District Court in Portland, Joseph Dibee pleaded not guilty...and was ordered detained as a flight risk." The federal investigation "was known as 'Operation Backfire,' and the Seattle field office of the FBI worked with authorities in several states on the case." KPIX-TV San Francisco (8/10, 110K) reported that one fugitive, American citizen Josephine Sunshine Overaker, "remains at large from Operation BACKFIRE." The FBI "continues to offer a reward of up to \$50,000 for information leading to her arrest." The Oregonian (8/10, 815K) and KITV-TV Honolulu (8/10, 10K) also reported on the story.

Former Chicago Resident Indicted For Allegedly Joining ISIS.

The Chicago Tribune (8/10, 2.37M) reports Faress Muhammad Shraiteh, a 21-year-old former Chicago resident, was charged with "with two counts of providing and attempting to provide material support to a terrorist organization" for allegedly "flying overseas in 2015 to join the Islamic State terrorism group with two friends, one of whom was later killed in a suicide attack." Prosecutors are expected "to ask that Shraiteh - who is a U.S. citizen - be detained without bond pending trial, but it's unclear when he will appear in court in Chicago." He is thought to be "living in Israel, but it wasn't immediately clear whether he's been detained there."

Newly Released Cables Suggest Haspel Oversaw Waterboarding At Thai Site.

The New York Times (8/10, Barnes, Shane, 19.33M) reports that "11 newly released top-secret cables from the time that Gina Haspel, now the C.I.A. director, oversaw" a "secret prison" in Thailand "provide at times graphic detail on the techniques the agency used to brutally interrogate [AI] Qaeda captives," including waterboarding. The Times says the CIA was "racing to uncover what they feared were large-scale plots against the United States in the chaotic months and years after the Sept. 11 attacks." Tom Blanton, the director of the National Security Archive, tells the Times that, "as the chief of the base," Haspel "would have written or authorized the cables," which were "obtained by the archive in a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit."

The Washington Post (8/9, Deyoung, 15.68M) reports that the suspect, Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, "was believed to have been involved in planning the USS Cole bombing in Yemen in 2000, and the CIA was convinced that he knew about other attacks being planned." According to the Post, "Nashiri's treatment during interrogation - forced nudity, shackling, being slammed against walls, being confined in a small box and mock executions, as well as waterboarding - has been previously mentioned in broad terms in official reports, hearings, court cases and news reports." The AP (8/10, Reichmann) also reports.

NYTimes A1 Profiles Iraqi Spy Who Infiltrated ISIS.

In a more than 2,700-word front-page article, the New York Times (8/12, A1, Coker, 19.33M) profiles Capt. Harith al-Sudani, a "36-year-old former computer tech" and "perhaps Iraq's

greatest spy." For the last 16 months, Sudani "had worked as a mole, posing as a militant jihadist in the Islamic State while passing critical information to a secret branch of Iraq's national intelligence agency," the Falcon Intelligence Cell, which the Times says "may be the most important organization on the front lines of the war on terrorism that almost no one has heard of." Sudani was also one of the few spies "in the world to have infiltrated the upper reaches of the Islamic State," and his "record was stunning: He had foiled 30 planned vehicle-bomb attacks and 18 suicide bombers, according to Abu Ali al-Basri, the agency's director." In August last year, ISIS "released a propaganda video showing militants executing blindfolded prisoners," and the "Falcons were certain that Captain Sudani was one of them."

Opinion: ISIS Reconstituting Itself Across Social Media Platforms.

In a piece for The Hill (8/11, Ginsberg, 2.71M), former US Ambassador to Morocco Marc Ginsberg writes, "While the media's attention is focused on the transgressions of social media companies relating to privacy, data collection, and Putin's election interference, ISIS has slowly rebuilt its online presence after its battlefield defeats in Iraq and Syria." From its safe havens, "ISIS and other terrorist organizations have gravitated to the peripheral platforms of American social media to reconstitute incitement, and instructional digital terrorism." This is "fast becoming a 'Sputnik Moment' for BigTech." ISIS "is reconstituting itself across a wide spectrum of social media platforms while you are at the beach, and BigTech is simply not doing a credible job at the lifeguard post."

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Man Who Threatened Trump Stole Vehicle, Last Spotted In West Virginia.

The AP (8/10, 2.14M) reported, "Kentucky State Police say it appears that" Shawn Christy, "a man wanted for allegedly threatening President Donald Trump, Medal of Honor recipient Dakota Meyer and others," stole a vehicle "belonging to Meyer's brother." Police "said in a statement that Meyer's brother, Timothy Gilliam, arrived home Thursday evening and found that someone had kicked in the front door of his home in Adair County and stole a Jeep Grand Cherokee and food." Police "say Gilliam showed investigators surveillance videos and it appears the suspect" is Christy, 26, of McAdoo, The FBI's Pittsburgh office "is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of Christy."

The Hazleton (PA) Standard-Speaker (8/11) reported Meyer is former vice presidential candidate and Alaska governor Sarah Palin's former son-in-law. Palin "took out a restraining order against" Christy in 2010. The Lexington (KY) Herald-Leader (8/10, 309K) reported that authorities haven't said why Christy is "allegedly targeting Meyer and his family." Additionally, on Friday, "the FBI said the 2001 Jeep Cherokee believed to have been stolen by Christy in Adair County was last spotted around 2 p.m. Thursday on Interstate 64 in Huntington, W. Va." WDKY-TV Lexington, KY (8/10) reported, "The search for Christy is being conducted by the Secret Service, FBI and US Marshals." WFMZ-TV Allentown, PA (8/10, 261K), WHAS-TV Louisville, KY (8/10), and WDRB-TV Louisville, KY (8/10, 85K) reported similarly.

Sheriff Walks Out Of Interview After Defending Decision Not To Search Squalid New Mexico Compound Earlier.

CNN (8/13, McLean, Correspondent, 82.6M) reports, "Taos County Sheriff Jerry Hogrefe walked out of a CNN interview after defending his decision not to search a squalid New Mexico compound for a missing boy, despite having the property owners' permission to comb it." The sheriff "has been criticized by the owners of the property where the compound sits illegally." Jason and Tanya Badger "believe a missing child, 3-year old Abdul-Ghani Wahhaj, may have been alive on the compound when they say they alerted law enforcement months ago." The FBI started watching the property in May.

DC Sniper's Attorneys, Virginia AG Agree To Postpone Resentencing Him.

The Washington Post (8/10, Jackman, 15.68M) reports, "The lawyers for convicted sniper Lee Boyd Malvo and the Virginia attorney general have agreed to postpone a resentencing of the former teenaged defendant while awaiting a decision from the U.S. Supreme Court on whether the resentencing should happen at all." Malvo, now 33, "was given life sentences without parole in Virginia for three of the 10 killings he and accomplice John Allen Muhammad committed in the D.C. area in 2002."

Mississippi Sheriff Jailed On Extortion, Drug Charges.

The Detroit Free Press (8/10, 1.21M) reported, "The sheriff of Tallahatchie County in Mississippi is behind bars, accused of 15 years of drug trafficking and bribery." Sheriff William Brewer, 58, of Oakland, "was arrested by FBI agents Friday morning." The AP (8/10, 2.14M) and WATN-TV Memphis, TN (8/10) report similarly.

Ex-School District Employee In Texas Arrested For Alleged Relationship With Student.

KEDA-TV Amarillo, TX (8/10) reported former Stinnett School District employee Kevin Gibson "is behind bars after an alleged relationship with a student." According to "the Hutchinson County Sheriff's Office...Gibson was taken into custody on Thursday by Texas Rangers and FBI officials." He was "booked into the Randall County Jail and remanded into federal custody on charges of coercion and enticement of a minor."

FBI Dismantles Navajo Nation Gang.

KUTV-TV Salt Lake City (8/10, 77K) reported, "The FBI dismantled a violent gang in the Navajo Nation Thursday afternoon," called the Red Skin Kingz (RSK) gang. The RSK "was a violent gang that operated on the eastern side of the Navajo Nation in Arizona, and were responsible for at least three murders, attempted murder, aggravated assaults, carjacking, kidnappings, sexual assaults and drug trafficking among other crimes."

Ohio Man Sentenced To 11 Years In Child Porn Case.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal (8/11, 445K) reported Ohio resident Mark Alan Stoneking, 40, formerly of Henderson, "was sentenced Friday to 135 months in federal prison for sharing sexually explicit pictures of children on Twitter, a U.S. Department of Justice release said." An FBI task force "arrested him in April of last year." KSNV-TV Las Vegas (8/10) reports similarly.

New York Man Sentenced To Two Years On Child Porn Conviction.

The Buffalo (NY) News (8/10, 469K) reported Donald J. Gardner Jr., 42, of Lafayette, "was sentenced to 24 months in prison following his conviction on a charge of possession of child pornography that resulted from his soliciting pornographic images of a 10-year-old Town of Niagara girl via Facebook, the U.S. Attorney's Office said." The case "was investigated by the FBI's Child Exploitation Task Force and Niagara County Sheriff's Office."

Tennessee Man Wanted By FBI In Drug Conspiracy Case.

WZTV-TV Nashville, TN (8/10, 117K) reported convicted felon O.B. Hildson, 31, "is wanted by the FBI for a drug conspiracy including possession with intent to distribute weed, cocaine and oxycodone." He is "a known member of the Young Mob street gang according to the FBI." The FBI "is offering a reward for up to \$1,000."

Man Dies After Swallowing Packets Of Heroin Following Federal Raid.

The AP (8/11, 528K) reported authorities say 60-year-old James Coleman "died after he and others apparently swallowed packets of heroin during a federal drug bust on homes on Milwaukee's north side." The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel "reports the FBI, Milwaukee police and other law enforcement agencies raided several homes early Wednesday as part of a bust targeting a gang with Chicago connections that was moving kilograms of heroin in Milwaukee."

Convicted Bank Robber Arrested While Allegedly Trying To Rob Another Bank.

12-TV New Jersey (8/10, 17K) reported convicted bank robber Fred Meletti "was arrested while allegedly attempting to rob another bank." An FBI spokesperson "says that Meletti and a getaway driver pulled up" to the Investors Savings Bank in Cedar Grove Friday morning with a note. Officials "say that the getaway driver Meletti allegedly hired was actually an informant for investigators."

CYBER DIVISION

Email "Sextortion" Scam Targets Thousands.

Philly (PA) (8/10, 551K) reported that thousands are likely to "receive a ransom message" in which "cyber criminals claim to have evidence of targets watching porn, cheating on their spouses, or otherwise behaving badly." These "sextortion" emails "include users' personal

information to add authenticity, according to law enforcement and cyber security experts." But in most cases, "the cyber criminals are bluffing and don't really have dirt on their targets." The FBI "warned the public Tuesday to beware of such scams and said it's recently received a surge of reports about the issue." The bureau's Internet Crime Complaint Center "said targets have received such extortion attempts in both emails and letters." In 2017, "the FBI's internet complaint center received 14,938 extortion-related complaints with victims losing more than \$15 million."

The Washington Post (8/10, Brice-Saddler, 15.68M) reported on a scam letter that Washington resident Jeff Strohl received threatening "to expose a secret – unless Strohl wired the sender \$15,750 in bitcoin." Strohl "realized he was one of several residents in the area to receive similar threats in the past month in a scheme the FBI says appears to target affluent neighborhoods across the country."

US CERT Warning Describes New North Korean Malware.

Federal Computer Week (8/10, Rockwell, 263K) reported that an August 9 US CERT warning "said analysis done alongside the FBI had uncovered a Trojan malware variant, dubbed 'Keymarble' that appears to be the latest used by the North Korean government." The analysis "placed Keymarble in the same 'Hidden Cobra' bucket as a number of previously discovered malware activities backed by the North Korean government."

Man Responsible For Helping Solve Massive Bitcoin Heist Profiled.

In a nearly 3,000-word front-page article, the Wall Street Journal (8/10, Scheck, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) profiled Kim Nilsson and chronicled how his efforts over a three-year period helped the FBI last year solve the theft of \$400 million in bitcoin in 2014.

Hackers At Def Con Test US Election Infrastructure For Vulnerabilities.

Reuters (8/10, Bing) reported security conference Def Con "served as a laboratory for breaking into voting machines on Friday, extending its efforts to identify potential security flaws in technology that may be used in the November U.S. elections." Reuters added hackers in attendance "will continue to probe the systems over the weekend in a bid to discover new vulnerabilities, which could be turned over to voting machine makers to fix." In an interview, Jeanette Manfra, assistant secretary of cybersecurity and communications at the Department of Homeland Security, said, "We see a lot of value in doing things like this. We think it's important. ... The idea is, when we find things here, how do we connect them with the actual vendors and make sure that we are closing this loop back to a coordinated vulnerability disclosure process."

ABC News (8/10, Harris, 1.85M) reported, "Children as young as 5 will compete to hack election results websites, and DEF CON has partnered with children's hacking organization r00tz Asylum to award prizes to the first and youngest kids to breach the sites and hack equipment."

Experts Question Value Of Exposing Voting Machine Flaws At Conference. The Wall Street Journal (8/12, McMillan, Volz, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports that at this year's Def Con security conference in Las Vegas, hackers were able to expose weaknesses in voting machines that could allow unauthorized people to manipulate the vote. While organizers say the effort is intended to encourage vendors to fix the flaws and states to move to more secure systems, some manufacturers and security experts say the event is unlikely to reveal real-world problems that would manifest in an election.

Newsmax (8/12, 407K) reports, "Manufacturers and security experts counter the hack-a-thon isn't likely to uncover real-world issues that would come up in an election."

CNN International (8/11, O'Sullivan) reports that election officials "are increasingly looking beyond the threats against traditional election infrastructure like voting machines and voting databases and more to the threat of disinformation."

Mashable (8/10, Morse, 900K) reported that DHS cyber official Jeanette Manfra said at the Def Con conference that it is "really difficult to manipulate the actual vote count itself," there remain real concerns that manipulation need not be so severe to undermine faith in the electoral system.

Researchers: Three In 10 House Candidates' Websites Have Security Problems.

Reuters (8/12, Menn) reports that in a study unveiled at the Def Con security conference on Sunday, independent researchers led by former NIST security expert Joshua Franklin found that "three of every 10 candidates running for the U.S. House of Representatives have significant security problems with their websites." The researchers "identified multiple vulnerabilities,

including problems with digital certificates used to verify secure connections with users, Franklin told Reuters ahead of the presentation."

Politico (8/11, Matishak, 3.51M) reports that fliers in the restrooms at the Democratic National Committee "are a visible symptom of an increased focus on cybersecurity at the DNC." However, "The painful lessons of 2016 have yet to take hold across the campaign world – which remains the soft underbelly for cyberattacks aimed at disrupting the American political process."

Georgia Election Security An Issue In Race For Governor. NPR (8/12, Kauffman, 3.55M) reports that Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp "is the Republican nominee to be Georgia's next governor, and in another election season where cyber-attacks are in the air, his record securing the state's elections is becoming a campaign issue." The Georgia Democratic Party has called for Kemp's resignation, "citing in part his response to Russian-backed hacking attempts of state voting systems in 2016," when he "rejected federal offers of help to secure his state's voting systems."

House Intelligence Committee Introduces Bipartisan Election Security Bill.

The Washington Times (8/10, Boylan, 460K) reported Reps. Tom Rooney (R-FL), Trey Gowdy (R-SC), Jim Himes (D-CT), and Terri Sewell (D-AL), members of the House Intelligence Committee members, on Friday "introduced a companion bill to the Senate's Secure Elections Act, which aims to significantly bolster America's digital voting election infrastructure against future cyberattacks." According to the Times, the legislation "addresses a host of election security issues and would provide grant funding for states to replace old, paperless voting machines. New systems would include a paper trail in case an election outcome is disputed and requires an audit."

Newsmax (8/10, Crowe, 407K) reported similarly.

Scott Calls On Nelson To Show Evidence That Russian Hackers Interfered In Florida Race.

The Washington Post (8/10, Scherer, Sonmez, 15.68M) reported Florida Gov. Rick Scott (R) on Friday "demanded" that his opponent Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) come forward with "evidence to back up his claim this week that Russian operatives have penetrated the election systems of several counties in the state and 'now have free rein to move about.'" Scott asserted, "Either Bill Nelson knows of crucial information that the federal government is withholding from Florida election officials or is simply making things up."

The AP (8/10, Johnson) reported similarly.

Lawyers For Accused Russian Hacker Seek Psychiatric Evaluation For Client.

Bloomberg News (8/10, Mehrotra, 4.46M) reports "attorneys for a Russian national accused of hacking U.S. technology companies want a psychiatric evaluation of Yevgeniy Nikulin to determine whether he's mentally fit to face trial in January." Bloomberg details Nikulin's behavior since his extradition to the US from the Czech Republic and reports his attorneys "told a federal judge Friday that the Russian may be suffering from a mental condition that makes him incompetent to assist in his defense."

US Told Ambassadors That Russia Was Responsible For 2016 Hack Of Swedish News Websites.

BuzzFeed News (8/10, Collier, Leopold) reports a partial State Department cable obtained via a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit reveals that "at the same time that Russian military intelligence operatives allegedly penetrated Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign in 2016, suspected Russian hackers were also targeting at least nine Swedish news sites in an apparent attempt to dissuade Sweden from cooperating with NATO." BuzzFeed adds the cable was sent "primarily to US ambassadors in Europe" and "it detailed US intelligence suspicions about Russian meddling in US the presidential election."

Democratic Party Introduces Effort To Detect Twitter Bots.

The Washington Post (8/10, Scherer, 15.68M) reported that the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee "introduced internal software this spring to identify suspected automated Twitter accounts, or bots, that frequently post about key races and seem similar to the fake accounts that U.S. intelligence officials and technology firms say were part of Russia's interference in the 2016 presidential election, party officials said." The system "is designed to provide a more aggressive strategy to drive discussions on Facebook, Twitter and other

platforms, an area in which Democrats think they were outmaneuvered in 2016."

Researchers: IoT Cybersecurity Standards Urgently Needed.

The Washington Post (8/10, Hawkins, 15.68M) reported that "Congress hasn't done much" with an IoT cybersecurity standards bill introduced in August 2017. However, security researchers "[say] there's only more urgency now to boost security of connected devices." The Post goes on to discuss "a few things security researchers want policymakers to understand as they consider whether – and how – to regulate the rapidly expanding Internet of Things."

TVA Cyber Center Profiled.

The Chattanooga (TN) Times Free Press (8/12, Flessner, 173K) profiles the Tennessee Valley Authority's "new cybersecurity center in the utility's downtown Chattanooga Office Complex," where "two dozen IT specialists stare at their computer terminals and scan email messages, twitter feeds and network activity looking to spot any signs of cyber threats." The Times Free Press says, "As America's biggest government owned power utility...TVA is regarded as one of the richest targets for cyber terrorists." TVA Cybersecurity Group Director Andrea Brackett is quoted saying, "There are all kinds of threat actors that attempt to test us on a daily basis, but I think we are in a really great spot with all kinds of layering of defenses to make sure that we're protecting our operational assets from different types of cyber attacks that could happen, whether that is from the internet or internally from within TVA."

Fax Machines Vulnerable To Hacking.

The AP (8/12, Stevens) reports that cybersecurity company Check Point "said Sunday that their research discovered security flaws in tens of millions of fax machines." Researchers focused on Hewlett Packard all-in-one fax printers, "the global market leader for fax machines." Hewlett Packard "quickly fixed the issue...but the same vulnerabilities are present in most fax machines, including those by Canon and Epson."

NBC National Correspondent's Twitter Account Hacked.

The Washington Post (8/12, Phillips, 15.68M) reports, "The Twitter account of NBC national correspondent Peter Alexander appears to have been hijacked by hackers claiming to represent Turkey's 'cyber army.'" The Post adds, "A Twitter account under the name Ayyildiz Tim has claimed to be responsible for the hacking and posted a tweet with images from the correspondent's hacked profile."

West Virginia Testing Smartphone Voting Method.

Bloomberg News (8/10, Syeed, 4.46M) reported that West Virginia is testing a new smartphone voting method "which uses blockchain technology to store and secure digital votes, at a time of heightened concern about election meddling." A pilot program "was funded with a \$150,000 grant from Tusk/Montgomery Philanthropies Inc., a foundation set up by venture capitalist and former Uber Technologies Inc. adviser Bradley Tusk."

Analysis: Feds Keep Launching Cybersecurity Offices, But Experts Say There Is Lack Of Coordination.

The Washington Examiner (8/13, Giaritelli, 340K) reports, "Federal agencies have launched several offices and programs since the 2016 election that are intended to secure cyberspace, but some are warning that this is only creating more confusion among the private sector, since President Trump's White House hasn't done enough to help coordinate them." Experts "say the existence of a dozen independent cybersecurity operations with overlapping agendas is not ideal, especially since there is only sporadic information-sharing between agencies." The effectiveness of these offices "in light of their redundant missions will depend on how DHS defines the roles of the new center in coming months and how it coordinates with other agencies."

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Buffalo NY Mayor, Police Meet With Federal Law Enforcement To Address East Side Violence.

The Buffalo (NY) News (8/11, 469K) reported that "to combat the [gang] violence" that erupted in Buffalo's West Side during the summer of 2009, "Buffalo police worked with the FBI and the

U.S. Attorney's office over the next five years, eventually putting more than 50 gang members behind bars." It's the "kind of peace they'd like to see on the East Side of Buffalo, where there have been a series of shootings this summer." In the wake "of the shootings, Mayor Byron W. Brown, Police Commissioner Byron Lockwood and Erie County District Attorney John Flynn met in City Hall last week with leaders of all federal law enforcement agencies in the region to discuss ways to quell the violence." In addition to Kennedy, "those attending were Gary Loeffert, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the FBI's Buffalo Office," as well as members of the DEA, ATF, the U.S. Marshals Service, and Homeland Security.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Washington Murder Suspect Returned To US After More Than Decade On The Run.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer (8/12, 528K) reports former Tacoma man Jesus Richard Mederos, "wanted for investigation of second-degree murder has been returned to Washington state after more than a decade on the run." The Pierce County Prosecutor's Office "says...Mederos was arrested last year in Cuernavaca, in the Mexican state of Morelos, to face charges in the shooting death of 18-year-old Robert Tapia in October 2006." Mexican authorities "transferred Mederos to the custody of the FBI on Thursday and he was booked into the Pierce County Jail." Now that "Jesus is in jail, detectives really want to go after his brother Santiago who is wanted for two other murders." Santiago "is on the FBI's 'Ten Most Wanted' list." KCPQ-TV Seattle (8/10, 64K) reported, "The FBI believes Santiago is still hiding in Mexico and hopes his brother's arrest – and a \$100,000 cash reward – will help bring 'Pucho' to justice." The AP (8/10, 2.14M) and the Tacoma (WA) News Tribune (8/10, 198K) reported similarly.

OTHER FBI NEWS

Jury Clears FBI Agent In Shooting During 2016 Oregon Militia Standoff.

The New York Times (8/10, Johnson, 19.33M) reported that jurors found FBI agent Joseph Astarita "not guilty on Friday of lying to investigators about firing his rifle during a 2016 confrontation when a leader of an armed militia was killed." The Times says that while Astarita was "accused of firing two shots – neither shot struck anyone – at a roadblock where law enforcement officials were trying to stop leaders of an armed militia that had taken over a federal wildlife refuge in central Oregon," the jurors "concluded that Mr. Astarita, 41, a 13-year veteran with the F.B.I. and a member of its elite hostage rescue team, was not the one who fired the mysterious shots." According to the Times, the verdict has "only deepened the mystery that has surrounded the unexplained shots, and has been a topic of intense debate among law-enforcement officials, conspiracy theorists and militia supporters."

The AP (8/10, Dubois, 2.14M) reported Astarita "displayed a slight smile when the jury returned its verdict after less than a day of deliberations. He left the courthouse without comment." His attorneys, David Angeli and Robert Cary, said in a joint statement, "We are grateful to the men and women of the jury who saw through a case that should have never been brought." The verdict "marked another high-profile loss for prosecutors in cases related to the Bundy family, which opposes federal control of public lands."

CNN (8/10, Gast, Boyette, 82.6M) reported that Angeli "told CNN on Friday night that the defense emphasized during the trial there were no eyewitnesses who saw Astarita fire his weapon, and there was no ballistic evidence linking shots to his weapon."

Oregon Public Broadcasting (8/10) reported that former FBI Special Agent in Charge Greg Bretzing said, "I'm disappointed that we're not going to come to a resolution as to where those shots came from." Bretzing, "who oversaw the agency's response to the occupation," added, "I believe that the jury made an informed decision based on all the evidence that was presented to it." Bretzing "said there would likely be an internal administrative inquiry into action by Astarita and other FBI agents on scene, 'which may bring more closure to the situation.'"

The Oregonian (8/10, 815K) reported DOJ IG Michael E. Horowitz "thanked the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office and the Major Incident Team for its assistance in investigating Astarita." Horowitz "said his office respects the jury's verdict." Brian Levin, "a former New York Police officer who has worked closely with the FBI and now is director of California State University's Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, said the verdict 'plays into the narrative that there's some kind of government coverup,' although the alleged coverup wasn't proven in court by prosecutors."

In a separate piece, the Oregonian (8/11, 815K) reported that "hours after he and the others voted Friday to acquit Astarita," the presiding juror in the trial, a "37-year-old married father of two from a Portland suburb," described his experience to The Oregonian/OregonLive. The juror "asked that he not be identified by name, concerned about facing potential backlash over the trial's outcome." One of the things "that troubled him, he said, was the apparent 'us vs. them' tension between the FBI and Oregon State Police that pervaded the 2016 confrontation with Finicum and the aftermath. The animosity came out in the trial testimony, he said."

The Washington Post (8/10, 15.68M), KOIN-TV Portland, OR (8/10), and WAMU-FM Washington (8/10, 34K) also provided coverage.

Two Defendants Cleared In Bunkerville Standoff File \$60 Million Lawsuit Against Federal Government.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal (8/10, Ferrara, 445K) reports that "a pair of former defendants cleared of federal charges in the Bunkerville standoff have filed a lawsuit against the prosecutors who took them to trial, with other government authorities." According to the article, "Rick Lovelien, of Montana, and Steven Stewart, of Idaho, are asking for \$60 million in the lawsuit, which names Las Vegas prosecutors Steven Myhre, Daniel Schiess and Nadia Ahmed as defendants and includes former FBI Director James Comey, former Bureau of Land Management Director Neil Kornze and the agencies of the FBI and BLM."

Iowa Man Part Of FBI Public/Private Partnership Known As InfraGard.

The Iowa City (IA) Press-Citizen (8/11, 45K) reports, "North Liberty IT specialist Tom Schultz is a member of InfraGard, a little-known FBI public/private partnership in which some 46,000 citizen volunteers across the nation quietly strive to defer threats to the country's critical infrastructure." In an age "where national security threats seem to be on the upswing, these volunteers expand the eyes and ears of federal and state authorities – mostly by consuming information, staying alert and keeping watch within their own areas of expertise." InfraGard "is needed, [Schultz] says, because 85% of America's critical infrastructure is not owned by the government." Guarding against "potential threats from terrorists, intellectual property theft by nation states, cyberspace villains" is a "very real and constant focus of the program." All volunteers "are meticulously vetted by the FBI, plus must adhere to confidentiality restrictions."

Retired Wheeling, WV FBI Agents Still Fighting Crime.

The AP (8/12, 2.14M) profiles Wheeling residents Thomas Burgoyne and Richard "Dick" Ferda, who "spent time in their FBI days at the old Department of Justice Building in Washington, D.C., not knowing one another until later when they worked together for 11 years out of the Federal Building in Wheeling. Both worked under FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover." Today, "the two retired FBI agents are back at work, fighting for justice in a different way. They both are licensed private investigators working under the Thomas Burgoyne Investigations logo." At "77 and almost 75 respectively, Burgoyne and Ferda are not planning to slow down anytime soon."

A Review Of FBI's History In Utah.

KSL-TV Salt Lake City (8/12, 490K) reports in an article which is "part of a series reviewing Utah and U.S. history," how "the FBI's role in American crime has changed heavily over time." The FBI "celebrated 110 years of existence on July 26." FBI historian John Fox "said the Salt Lake City field office opened as early as 1910 or 1911 (earlier than the FBI's initial reported date of 1914.)" Some of the "largest cases the Salt Lake field office investigated came after" the 1960s. Cyber counterintelligence, "public corruption and civil rights are...a high priority in the Salt Lake area, as well as working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs on Native American lands within the district's jurisdiction."

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Democrats Slam Trump, Republicans On Race Ahead Of DC March.

In its lead story, NBC Nightly News (8/12, lead story, 2:20, Snow, 5.26M) reported on the President's tweet in which he wrote, "The riots in Charlottesville a year ago resulted in senseless death and division. We must come together as a nation. I condemn all types of racism and acts of violence. Peace to ALL Americans!" NBC added that that message and a tweet from his daughter and White House aide Ivanka, in which she said, "There is no place for white supremacy, racism

and neo-nazism in our great country," were "an apparent effort to make amends for the President's own rhetoric, which at times has found support among avowed racists."

On Sunday, Democrats "insisted" that Trump "must do more to prevent blatant acts of racism," [Politico](#) (8/12, Cohen, 3.51M) reports. Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) told [ABC's This Week](#) (8/12, 2.72M), "He has not gone far enough. I think it's a low bar for the president of the United States to simply say he's against racism. He's got to do better than that."

Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA) said on [CBS' Face the Nation](#) (8/12, 3.23M), "What I think I'm most concerned about with this President is his penchant to divide us, to attack people because they're immigrants, to attack people of their religion, attack minorities. To use vulgar language to describe countries where people come who might be Latino or African. There is a concerted effort that he is been engaged in to divide people, including dividing based on race."

[Breitbart](#) (8/12, Key, 1.28M) reports that House Minority Leader Pelosi said on [MSNBC's AM Joy](#) (8/12, 881K) that Trump's "whole thing is 'Make America White Again.'" Pelosi said, "We're going backward, and the President with all of his statements is the master of the dog whistle. Everything he has done – whether it's taking babies out of the arms of their moms, whether it's issues that relate to health care in our country, access to services and the rest is – his whole thing is 'Make America White Again.' That's his thing. He can say a nice thing today in a tweet, but the fact is his actions speak louder than his words."

Presidential counselor Kellyanne Conway defended the President's record on race. On [ABC's This Week](#) (8/12, 2.72M), Conway said that critics are not looking at "the totality of [Trump's] comments about Charlottesville and white supremacists." Conway said, "He's calling for unity among all Americans, and he denounced all forms of bigotry and acts of violence and racism." On [Fox News Sunday](#) (8/12, 1.85M), Conway argued, "I think you've got to look at President Trump's record with respect to men and women of color. The record low unemployment rate among African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian-Americans and others is remarkable and it's owing to his policies, his bold leadership that there are so many more people of color who are able to access these new jobs in manufacturing, and professional industries as well in mining as well, carpentry is way up."

Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) said [CBS' Face the Nation](#) (8/12, 3.23M), "I think there are a number of steps the President has taken to move us in a better direction. Opportunity zone was my number one ask, he said 'yes,' that was good news. Number two, he has spent more time meeting with African-American pastors and business leaders, many of whom on the business side brought to the White House meeting with the Vice President, invested more time and energy in that direction. Then another bright spot is the President's plan and objective to work with both the House and the Senate to reduce recidivism which focuses on prison reform. I think if you look at the actual steps from the opportunity zones to the meetings with pastors and business leaders, reducing recidivism and without any question the lowest African American unemployment rate in the history of the country."

CNN White House reporter Kaitlin Collins said on [CNN's Inside Politics](#) (8/12, 762K) that Trump's tweet "is interesting. He says, 'I condemn all types of racists.' It's not clearly as specific as the tweet from his daughter Ivanka that said she specifically condemned neo-nazis and white nationalists, there is no room in the country for white supremacy. Instead, the President said all types of racism. That was unusual. ... This does come on the week that you can't ignore what the President himself has said about the athletes who protest by kneeling during the national anthem which the President said they were unable to define what it was they are protesting. He referred to two successful prominent men as dumb and insulted their intelligence. You can't ignore what the President does and says just compared to one tweet saying he condemns all types of racism."

Pelosi: McConnell's Call To Stop Obama's Agenda Was "Racist." [Breitbart](#) (8/12, Key, 1.28M) reports that Pelosi told [MSNBC's AM Joy](#) that Senate Majority Leader McConnell was being "racist" when he said Republicans had to make sure former President Obama does not succeed. Said Pelosi, "Let me remind you that when the Republicans took power when President Obama was president of the United States, what Mitch McConnell said is the most important thing we can do is to make sure he does not succeed. If that wasn't a racist statement – that is unthinkable."

Jones: Ingraham, White Nationalist Preaching The Same Message. The [Daily Caller](#) (8/12, Givas, 420K) reports that on his show Saturday, CNN host Van Jones showed a clip of Fox News host Laura Ingraham "discussing demographic changes in America" and another of a CNN colleague interviewing a white nationalist in Pennsylvania and said the white nationalist and Ingraham are preaching the same hateful message. After playing both clips, Jones said, "I see zero difference between what Laura Ingraham is saying on mainstream cable and what the Nazi

was just saying in front of his house. ... Literally, it's the same message and it is wrong. But there is some good news in America. There are millions of people who refuse to accept this notion that America should be whites-only or dominated by one race forever."

Conway Pressed To Name African-American Adviser With Office In West Wing.

Asked on [ABC's This Week](#) (8/12, 2.72M) about the most prominent African-American high-level adviser to the President on the West Wing staff, Conway said, "You're totally not covering the fact that our Secretary of Housing and Urban Development." She added, after being reminded that the question was about West-Wing staff, "Well, the President works with Secretary Carson every day." Conway eventually answered, "We have Jeron [Smith, the deputy director of digital initiatives], who's done a fabulous job. ... He's been very involved with Jared Kushner and President Trump on prison reform." Asked if he had an office in the West Wing, Conway said, "He has an office in the EOP, absolutely, the Executive Office of the President, yes." After host George Stephanopoulos said that the EOP isn't in the West Wing, Conway said, "If you're going by that...then you should look at the fact that we have a number of different minorities, and the fact is that this President is doing well for all Americans."

Counter-Protesters Outnumber Marchers At "White Civil Rights Rally" In DC. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/12, story 2, 2:55, Llamas, 4.65M) reported that on the anniversary of the "deadly violence in Charlottesville," a "small far-right group" marched in Washington, marching in DC Sunday during an event "billed as a, quote, 'white civil rights rally.'" The marchers were "massively outnumbered by thousands of counter-protesters." ABC (Wright) added, "By 2:00 p.m., it was clear the counter-protesters were out in numbers." [USA Today](#) (8/12, Hayes, Simon, Bacon, 11.4M) says the "small group of white nationalists" were "heavily outnumbered" by the "thousands of counterprotesters," and [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/12, lead story, 2:20, Snow, 5.26M) led its broadcast with coverage of the rally, reporting that the presence of the "small group of white nationalists" was "overshadowed by a larger group of counter-protesters." NBC (Bennett) added that the white nationalist rally's organizers "expected up to 400 demonstrators," but "only a couple dozen showed up."

The [Washington Post](#) (8/12, Heim, Thebault, Jamison, Lang, 15.68M) reports that throughout the day, "large numbers of police officers sought – successfully, for the most part – to keep the two sides from clashing in a repeat of last year's deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville." The [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/12, lead story, 1:50, Quijano, 1.72M) reported in its lead story, "There were some tense moments as the demonstrators got off the train and walked...to Lafayette Square, where they were met by far more counter-protesters and an army of police who escorted them here." The [Washington Times](#) (8/12, Airey, Times, 460K) says the "Unite the Right 2" rally "fizzled out as darkening clouds threatened rain. Scheduled to last until 7 p.m. Sunday, the white supremacist gathering broke up at about 5:15 p.m., and a cordon of police escorted the attendees from the square."

[Breitbart](#) (8/12, Binder, 1.28M) reports that during the counter-protest Sunday, "open borders protesters and members of the left-wing anarchist group Antifa chanted death to America." Breitbart cites a video in which "open borders activists can be heard and seen marching down streets throughout Washington, DC, demanding an end to the United States." The group, which Breitbart describes as a "mob of left-wing activists," chanted, "No border, no wall, no USA at all!" In a separate story, [Breitbart](#) (8/12, Binder, 1.28M) reports that "Black Lives Matter activists wearing ski masks attacked and threatened drivers" during the counter-protest. Breitbart cites footage in which "activists can be seen attacking cars and threatening drivers who were attempting to drive down the streets of Washington, D.C."

No Injuries Reported In Charlottesville Protests. [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/12, story 2, 1:20, Snow, 5.26M) reported that protesters "also gathered in Charlottesville itself" on Sunday. NBC (Rodriguez) added that security "was very tight" in Charlottesville, especially "at the site where Heather Heyer and others were injured last year when a car ran into a group of counter-protesters." While there were "some standoffs between law enforcement and some of those protesters," there were no reported injuries.

On the [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/12, story 2, 1:35, Quijano, 1.72M), Ed O'Keefe described "an intense day" in Charlottesville as "marchers spent the day across the city denouncing the violence that had brought unwanted attention to this college town last year." O'Keefe added that city officials "declined to give out permits for public events in hopes of avoiding any more drama," and the Governor "issued a state of emergency and set aside up to \$2 million for security costs," which "angered local residents who said it contributed to the stress around the anniversary."

NBC Downplays Antifa Attack On Its Reporter. [NewsBusters](#) (8/12, Fondacaro, 67K) reports that on the one-year anniversary of the Charlottesville protests, "white supremacists and

radical leftists known as Antifa descended on the Virginia town once more to commit more violence" and "NBC News reporter Cal Perry and his crew were in the thick of it as Antifa members ganged up on them and attacked" Saturday night. However, the next day, "NBC's Sunday Today ignored the attack and suggested the media was simply 'heckled' by their assaulters." NBC reporter Garrett Haake, who was at the White House Sunday "in anticipation of violence there as another white supremacist rally was set to be held," reported the incident this way: "Overnight, tense moments in the streets of Charlottesville, Virginia, far left protesters heckling the media and chanting anti-police slogans."

Zogby: Support For Secession Strong Among Democrats, Blacks. The Washington Examiner (8/12, Bedard, 340K) reports that a new Zogby Analytics survey "finds strong support for secession among Democrats and blacks." According to the poll, "39 percent of the country support states breaking away from the national government and country," and "those most supportive of secession are Democrats and blacks." The survey found that 42 percent of Democrats "support secession, a slight increase since Zogby Analytics asked the question a year ago. GOP support dropped from 38 percent to 35 percent. Among African-Americans, support rose from 43 percent to 47 percent."

In a commentary for NBC Nightly News (8/12, story 8, 1:25, Snow, 5.26M), Harry Smith said, "Hate is alive and well in 21st century America. Our history is littered by ethnic enmity, and blacks and Hispanics wonder daily when that whole 'and justice for all' thing applies to them." Smith added, "Demographers say Anglo Americans will be the minority population in just a couple of decades. ... Maybe Charlottesville was less a showcase of hate than it was a demonstration of fear, fear of the future."

Group Sues To Put Back Confederate Statues In Memphis. The CBS Weekend News (8/12, story 5, 2:00, Quijano, 1.72M) reported that the rally in Charlottesville last year "began as a protest against the removal of a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee," which still stands in the city. While "other cities have removed Confederate monuments...they're finding that doesn't end the legal battles." CBS (Strassmann) added that while the city of Memphis, Tennessee removed two Confederate statues last year, the Sons of Confederate Veterans "has sued to put them back up." Strassmann added, "Since the unrest in Charlottesville, 36 cities have removed Confederate symbols. They're hidden in Baltimore, New Orleans and Memphis. But more than 700 still stand nationwide. Until the court rules, these statues will stay sealed in a box, like a coffin."

Stewart: Virginians Are "Sick And Tired" Of Talking About Race. Virginia US Senate candidate Corey Stewart (R) said on MSNBC's Politics Nation (8/12, 486K), "I meet with voters every single day, the residents of Virginia, and there is one thing that is very, very clear and that is people are sick and tired of talking about race all the time. They're tired of it. They want to move on, the people of Charlottesville want to move on. The people of Virginia want to move on, they have a lot more important issues to talk about than race on a constant basis, which is what we get out of you and the rest of the media on a daily basis."

President Thanks Kanye West As NAACP President And Spike Lee Condemn Trump For Enabling Racists.

The Hill's (8/10, Kurtz, 2.71M) "In The Know" blog reports that President Trump on Friday tweeted, "Thank you to Kanye West and the fact that he is willing to tell the TRUTH. One new and great FACT - African American unemployment is the lowest ever recorded in the history of our Country. So honored by this. Thank you Kanye for your support. It is making a big difference!" The Hill says that Trump's praise "came a day after West appeared on ABC's 'Jimmy Kimmel Live' and defended his support of the controversial commander in chief," although in an analysis, Washington Post (8/10, Bump, 15.68M) correspondent Philip Bump emphasizes that "on Kimmel, West could only defend Trump in terms of his own relationship to the world. Trump was worth supporting mostly because people didn't think he should be supported." Bump adds that when "asked to defend Trump as president, West had no response."

Meanwhile, NAACP President Derrick Johnson in a recent interview with Politico (8/10, Peterson, 3.51M) said Trump has "not only made racist comments, but he's sought and implemented racist policies." According to Politico, Johnson said "he maintains a standing invitation to the president to address the NAACP, but he says he doubts that the administration has 'any interest in expanding its reach outside of a small set of individuals who all look alike.'"

The Washington Post (8/10, Sonmez, 15.68M) reports filmmaker Spike Lee in an interview with CNN's Anderson Cooper on Thursday in advance of the release of his new film, "BlackKkKlansman," said that Trump has given "the green light" to racists to spread their views.

Lee added, "Since this guy's gotten in the White House, it's not even a dog whistle. It's a bullhorn. ... And we've seen a rise of the right – it's not just America. It's worldwide."

Ingraham Does Not Apologize For Comments On "Demographic Changes." The [Washington Post](#) (8/10, Scott, 15.68M) reports Fox News host Laura Ingraham on Thursday sought to "clarify her comments about the nation's changing demographics that were broadly criticized as xenophobic and racist, but the one thing she didn't do is apologize." According to the Post, the lack of an apology "is understandable considering how Trumpism has consumed the right. One of the key rules of dealing with conflict, according to President Trump, is to never apologize. And ideally, to double down when criticized. That appears to be what Ingraham did. And in another Trump move, she criticized her critics and the media for reporting and critiquing her exact words."

Trump Administration Working To Reunify 386 Illegal Immigrant Children Separated From Families.

The [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/11, story 5, 0:15, Morgan, 1.24M) reported US officials are working to reunite "as many as 386" illegal immigrant children who were separated from their families while crossing the US-Mexico border. "Their parents have been deported, but officials say they have been able to reach most of them."

Texas Investigating Death Of Illegal Immigrant Child Released From Dilley Facility. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/11, story 6, 2:10, Morgan, 1.24M) reported the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services is investigating the death of an illegal immigrant child recently released from the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley. "Attorneys for the child's mother cite neglect and unsanitary conditions" at the facility "as possible factors." However, ICE Field Director Daniel Bible argues against the accusation, providing CBS a tour and noting the facility has "people on site daily that go through – go through to make sure that sanitary conditions are kept."

In continuing coverage, [ABC News](#) (8/11, Sands, 1.85M) reported that "Texas state officials are investigating allegations that a child died after being detained in unsanitary conditions at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement family facility, the state's child welfare agency announced." ABC said "Texas Department of Family and Protective Services said it formally opened the investigation Thursday after receiving the name of the child." Issara Baumann, Arnold & Porter's media relations manager, said in a statement that the firm "was recently retained by the mother of the child 'who tragically died after being detained by ICE in unsanitary conditions at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley.'"

[AFP](#) (8/10) also reported.

"Tent City" For Illegal Immigrant Children To Remain Open Until September 13. [CBS News](#) (8/11, Kates, 6.78M) reports the planned closure of a "Tent City" for unaccompanied illegal immigrant boys will close September 13, two months after its planned closure in July. The facility "opened on June 14 at the Tornillo Port of Entry," but "was initially slated to open for just 30 days." Since then, HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement has extended the closure deadline twice, and confirmed in a statement the agency "will continue to assess the need for this temporary shelter at Tornillo Land Port of Entry (LPOE), Tornillo, TX, based on projected need for beds and current capacity of the program."

DACA Could Face Conflicting Court Orders.

[Bloomberg BNA](#) (8/10, Francis) reported that "the DACA program may soon find itself in the center of what some say is a never-before-seen legal conundrum: directly conflicting court orders." Judge Andrew Hanen of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas "this week is considering a case challenging the legality of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. And there's a good chance he'll order that it be shut down, forcing the Department of Homeland Security to choose between complying with the shutdown order and other, existing court directives to keep the program running." Bloomberg BNA explained that "it's common for courts to disagree over whether a policy should be discontinued. But not so much for two courts to issue orders requiring the government to take two completely opposite actions."

Number Of People Caught Illegally Entering US From Canada Up 142% This Year.

The [CBS Weekend News](#) (8/12, story 8, 1:50, Quijano, 1.72M) reported, "While the Trump Administration has been focusing on the southern border," the number of people caught illegally crossing the northern border from Canada is up 142 percent this year. Last year, 1,489 of those caught were from Mexico. CBS (Dahler) added, "Mexican citizens don't need a Visa to enter

Canada. And one-way flights to Toronto and Montreal only cost about \$300." While Border Patrol "uses high tech motion detectors, sensors, and cameras to monitor some areas," they "admit there are hundreds of miles of unguarded border. And they simply don't know how many people are coming across illegally."

Vox And ProPublica Criticized For Suggesting MS-13 Is Misunderstood.

Fox News' Fox & Friends (8/10, 941K) drew attention to the case against a Massachusetts man who offered to pay \$500 to anyone who would kill an ICE agent, and tied it to new report from Vox (8/2, 1.66M) and ProPublica suggesting that MS-13 is "misunderstood," "really not that violent," and "taking aim at the President because he is so concerned about how violent MS-13 is." Steve Doocy said, "They defend MS-13 against the President's charge that it is a drug smuggling cartel. They say that's not the case." After playing a clip of a District Attorney from Long Island describing "17 homicides that MS-13 committed...in just 16 months," Ainsley Earhardt asked rhetorically, "Why are they defending them?"

TSA Administrator Says Agency Will Not Pull Security Screenings From Small Airports.

The Los Angeles Times (8/10, Martin, 4.03M) reports TSA Administrator Pekoske "promised that the federal security agency will continue to staff or oversee security screenings at all of the nation's 440 airports," responding to reports that TSA was considering halting security screenings at some small, regional airports. In an interview with USA Today, Pekoske said, "I can tell you categorically that is not going to happen. We are not eliminating federal screening at any airport." That being said, however, Pekoske also hinted that TSA is exploring how it can add a third type of security line for airport passengers, beyond the standard and TSA pre-check lines. This new security line would have "explosive-sniffing dogs" on guard and "would be quicker than the standard screening but not as fast as the 'pre-check' lane, he said, without elaborating on what the dog-sniffed passengers must unpack or remove at the screening station."

More US Airport Add 3D Screening Technology To Airport Security Lines. NBC Nightly News (8/10, story 8, 1:50, Holt, 6.69M) broadcast on an increasingly prevalent form of airport security, "3-D screening technology," which "could speed up your screening and allow you to carry a water bottle through security." The new 3D systems are already up and running at JFK International and Dulles International, for instance, as well as Phoenix Sky Harbor International and Boston Logan International, helping "to alleviate those TSA checkpoint choke-points." The technology scans bags similar to the way a CAT scan works, identifying potential threats. The story said that "under pressure from Congress, the TSA hopes to have 40 scanners in 15 airports by January. But it will take several years to place all 2,000 of them at every airport nationwide."

Peace Corps IG Identifies Growing Drug Abuse Problem Among Volunteers.

USA Today (8/10, Theobald, 11.4M) reports a growing number of Peace Corps volunteers are using drugs, according to the corps' inspector general. Over the last three years, one volunteer died due to drug use, seven were arrested by foreign law enforcement, and 152 have been removed from their posts. The IG report warned the "Peace Corps' efforts to address volunteer drug use have been insufficient, and that drug use continues to pose a serious risk to the integrity and reputation of the Peace Corps."

Advocates Lobby States To Waive Fees On Juvenile Offenders.

The Washington Post (8/10, Logan, 15.68M) reports "many Americans [have been] forced to pay fines, fees and restitution while interacting with the juvenile justice system," because "laws in almost all states allow courts to charge children and their families for a variety of items and services, including public defenders, drug testing and probation supervision." According to the Post, "research shows these administrative costs have a disparate impact on low-income juveniles of color and increases chances for recidivism." The Post adds that California last year "became the first state to repeal the fees...though courts can still charge youths fines as punishment and as restitution for victims," while the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court in Louisiana last month "became the first jurisdiction in the South to end the assessment and collection of discretionary juvenile fees, advocates said in a statement."

WPost A1 Details Parkland Survivor's Recovery Since Shooting.

In a more than 3,700-word front-page article, the Washington Post (8/8, A1, Kaplan, McClain, 15.68M) reports on how one teenager is recovering physically and emotionally since being "wounded in the February mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland."

Senate Schedules Kavanaugh's Confirmation Hearings To Begin Sept. 4.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley on Friday announced the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh "will be held Sept. 4-7, according to a notice sent to Senate Republican offices Friday and obtained by" the Washington Post (8/10, Kim, 15.68M), "although the committee noted that the hearing could be three or four days." The Post reports "the first day of hearings will be dedicated to opening statements from senators. Kavanaugh will face questioning starting Sept. 5. Then outside witnesses, legal experts and the American Bar Association will follow." In an interview on Friday, Senate Majority Leader McConnell predicted Kavanaugh will "get confirmed. It won't be a landslide, but he'll get confirmed." The Wall Street Journal (8/10, Tau, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports Grassley praised Kavanaugh as "one of the most respected jurists in the country and one of the most qualified nominees ever to be considered by the Senate for a seat on our highest court."

WPost A1: Democrats Expect Kavanaugh To Secure Confirmation. In a front-page article, the Washington Post (8/10, Sullivan, 15.68M) reports "Democrats have all but acknowledged that they are unable to stop the Senate from confirming Trump nominee Brett M. Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court this fall." The Post adds that "barring a major revelation, the Senate is poised to install the 53-year-old Kavanaugh on the high court and take the next step toward fulfilling President Trump's pledge to remake the Supreme Court – and the wider federal judiciary, potentially for decades." According to the Post, "the fizzling of the campaign to block Kavanaugh underscores the relative weakness of the Democrats, who had promised their political base a pitched battle to protect the landmark Roe v. Wade abortion ruling and other liberal causes."

Documents Show Kavanaugh Urged Starr To Wait Until Clinton Left Office To Indict. The New York Times (8/10, Shear, 19.33M) reports the National Archives on Friday released a private memo that revealed "on Christmas Eve 1998, five days after the House impeached President Bill Clinton, Brett Kavanaugh urged his boss – Kenneth W. Starr, the independent counsel – not to pursue a criminal indictment of Mr. Clinton until after he left office." According to the Times, the memo "shows that Judge Kavanaugh believed – rightly, it turned out – that the Senate would fail to convict the president for the 'high crimes and misdemeanors' that Mr. Starr and Mr. Kavanaugh had enumerated for Congress after Mr. Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky." The Washington Post (8/10, O'Harrow, Viebeck, Debonis, 15.68M) reports documents from 1998 and interviews also showed Kavanaugh "was uneasy about the explicit language and details that [Starr] intended to include in the report."

TSA Chief: 150 Smaller Airports Will Not Ditch Screenings.

In continuing coverage, the New York Post (8/10, Puhak, 4.46M) reports that "the head of the Transportation Security Administration has officially shut down reports that the agency will shutter checkpoints at 150 smaller airports across the nation, though a recent study found that doing so could save \$115 million per year." TSA Administrator David Pekoske told USA Today, "We're not doing that. Real simple. ... We looked at that and decided that was not an issue worth pursuing. Off the table." Meanwhile, "Pekoske further divulged that while the TSA studied the idea of dropping federal staffing at airports for planes with 60 or less seats, in a move that could relocate roughly 1,300 TSA workers to larger air hubs, the risks did not outweigh any potential benefits."

TSA Demonstrates 3D Screening Machine At Washington Dulles.

USA Today (8/10, Jansen, 11.4M) reported the TSA chose Washington Dulles International Airport "as one of the first 15 [airports] to test 3D scanners at checkpoints this summer." The TSA hopes to test 40 more airports "nationwide by the end of the year." Bill Frain, a senior vice president for L3 Technologies, "which made the machine being tested at Dulles, said it is more precise and allows officers to screen bags faster without unpacking them." Frain called the machine a "significant increase in technology."

WJLA-TV Washington (8/10, Carter-Conneen, 113K) also reported on the story.

Chicago Police: Two People Killed, 18 Wounded In Shootings On Friday Night.

The Chicago Tribune (8/11, Buckley, Sobol, Williams-Harris, Fry, 2.37M) reports the Chicago Police Department said 20 people, including five juveniles, were "shot Friday and early Saturday, two of them fatally." According to the Tribune, the latest shootings "come as the department adds 600 officers to patrol the streets this weekend in the districts most affected by gun violence following the city's most violent weekend in more than two years." The Tribune adds "at least 74

people were shot last weekend between 3 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Monday, 12 of them fatally." The Tribune details the latest shootings and concludes by noting "no arrests have been made."

NBC Segment Details Social Justice Advocate's Successful Run For Ferguson DA.

NBC Nightly News (8/11, story 9, 2:15, Snow, 4.46M) Ron Allen reported that "for Wesley Bell, becoming the first African-American top prosecutor in St. Louis County will be another step on a journey launched after the killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson four years ago." According to Allen, "Bell defeated Robert McCulloch, nationally known for presiding over the grand jury that choose not to prosecute then-police officer Darren Wilson, who said he shot and killed Brown in self-defense – a decision that reignited violence in Ferguson, national symbol of everything wrong between police and minority communities." Allen added Bell's priorities are to "push harder for reforms like community-based policing. Ending a bail system that he says puts too many nonviolent offenders in prison. And appointing special prosecutors in cases like Michael Brown's, when police use deadly force."

Cummings, Kaine Reject Warren's Claim That "Entire" Criminal Justice System Is "Racist."

Asked about Sen. Elizabeth Warren's comments earlier this month that the criminal justice system is "racist," Rep. Elijah Cummings said on ABC's This Week (8/12, 2.72M), "I don't necessarily agree with that, but I do know that right here in Baltimore we have had some real problems with policing. And it wasn't about black police and white police, it was just some bad police. We ended up with a consent decree that we're working through now. We have to have smart policing. We have to have community policing. Certainly Senator Warren is entitled to her opinions, but that's where I stand."

Sen. Tim Kaine said on CBS' Face the Nation (8/12, 3.23M), "There are systemic racial inequities in the justice system. What I'm saying, we have this policy, we're not living it perfectly in any sphere. Criminal justice, I think, would be one where there is significant problems. Look at the disproportionate incarceration rate. Now, to say the entire system is racist – I know fantastic professionals, law enforcement professionals, judges, prosecutors who are doing their best every day to reduce inequality. But if you just look at the results, the outcome, who is incarcerated."

Baltimore Police Officer Suspended After Repeatedly Punching A Man.

ABC World News Tonight (8/12, story 4, 1:30, Llamas, 4.65M) reported that a Baltimore police officer has been suspended "after video surfaced showing him repeatedly punching a man on the street and shoving him down." ABC (Bankert) added that a lawyer for Deshawn McGrier, who the video shows being repeatedly punched, "claims the officer had previously arrested the 26-year-old for assault and resisting arrest back in June." NBC Nightly News (8/12, story 5, 1:45, Ratford, 5.26M) reported that a statement from Baltimore's mayor called the video "disturbing." The city's interim police commissioner, who launched "an immediate investigation" said, "I have zero tolerance for behavior like I witnessed on the video today."

Some Government Workers Seek Return Of Union Dues In Wake Of Court Ruling.

The Washington Times (8/12, Swoyer, 460K) reports that in the wake of Janus v. AFSCME, in which the Supreme Court "ruled that public sector unions could not force nonmembers to pay dues," some workers "who had paid for years say they want their money back." Illinois state employee Mark Janus, the plaintiff in the suit, is seeking the return of "what he estimates is roughly \$2,000 in dues," and others have done the same. However, some attorneys say the justices "didn't say anything about repayments." New York attorney Mitchell Rubinstein said, "In my view, it's very unlikely that there will be any retroactivity with respect to this decision, and the reason for that is the Janus decision overruled 41-year-old precedent."

Puerto Rico Hurricane Maria Fatalities Remain Unaccounted For.

The Huffington Post (8/11, Miller, 4.32M) reports that "independent investigations conducted separately by The New York Times, Penn State University and Harvard University estimated [Hurricane] Maria's death toll could be in the thousands." However, "the official death count has remained at 64, though Puerto Rican officials quietly conceded this week in a report to Congress that over 1,427 deaths may be directly or indirectly linked to the historic storm." The Post says that "in the months since Maria, President Donald Trump has been remarkably silent about Puerto Rico's struggle to recover." White House spokesman Hogan Gidley provided a statement that said, "There's only one official count and the actual counting of disaster related fatalities is the

local responsibility of Puerto Rico. We have been supportive of Governor Rossello's efforts to ensure a full accounting and transparency. Those grieving deserve no less. The whole of government remains focused on ongoing recovery and preparedness for the current Hurricane season."

Facebook Bans Ads From Unproven Addiction Treatment Centers.

The Washington Times (8/10, Howell, 460K) reports Facebook will ban ads by addiction treatment centers that have not been "vetted as licensed and effective." In a statement, the company noted "public health experts have warned about some addiction treatment centers that have emerged which fail to meet basic healthcare quality standards," adding many "take part in insurance scams and many keep people in a cycle of addiction with unproven treatment methods."

Editorial: REAL ID Compliance Still A Problem For Oklahoma.

In an editorial, the Oklahoman (8/13, 422K) says that "Oklahoma lawmakers' tendency to put off addressing problems is long-established and continues to generate uncertainty on issues that should have been resolved years ago" and that "the state's struggle to comply with the federal REAL ID law is one example." The Oklahoman says that "while federal officials have eased timelines for implementation, it has been clear for years that the federal law isn't going away. Yet Oklahoma lawmakers didn't vote to comply with REAL ID until 2017, which meant the state had to apply for an extension from the federal government." Meanwhile, "now Gov. Mary Fallin has been forced to ask the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to expand the state's REAL ID extension until Oct. 10, 2019, because officials don't think Oklahoma will be able to issue REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses until April 30, 2020."

NYTimes Analysis: Under Sessions, DOJ No Longer Fighting For Voter Rights.

The New York Times (8/12, Wines, 19.33M) reports that "18 months into President Trump's term," the Department of Justice "has launched no new efforts to roll back state restrictions on the ability to vote, and instead often sides with them." Under Attorney General Sessions, the Department "has filed legal briefs in support of states that are resisting court orders to rein in voter ID requirements, stop aggressive purges of voter rolls and redraw political boundaries that have unfairly diluted minority voting power — all practices that were opposed under President Obama's attorneys general."

WPost Blasts Prosecution Of 12 Felons Who Voted Illegally In 2016. In an editorial, the Washington Post (8/12, 15.68M) criticizes Alamance County, NC District Attorney Pat Nadolski (R) for proceeding with the prosecution of 12 convicted felons, nine of whom are African Americans, who violated state law by voting in the 2016 election. While Nadolski "says race has nothing to do with his decision to seek sentences of up to two years for the crime of illegal voting," the Post argues that "context matters," because "this is North Carolina, where African Americans' voting rights have been under siege." The prosecution, the Post adds, "plays into the canard, peddled by President Trump and some other Republicans, that fraudulent voting poses a threat to the republic. In fact, there is no evidence that intentional voting fraud takes place in any significant numbers in North Carolina, where nearly 4.8 million ballots were cast in 2016, or anywhere else."

WPost, WTimes Analyses: New Documents Reveal No "Bombshells" About Kavanaugh.

The Washington Post (8/12, Barnes, Kim, O'Harrow, Reinhard, Sullivan, 15.68M) reports that another 88,000 pages of documents from Judge Brett Kavanaugh's time as a lawyer for the George W. Bush White House were released Sunday, and "a review of the latest trove revealed no obvious bombshells about Kavanaugh." Some of the documents "show Kavanaugh dealing with issues that arose in the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, while others show him being invited to conservative think tank events or being asked about minor issues such as parking." The Post adds that "throughout the new batch of documents are many others that reveal nothing about Kavanaugh's fitness for the Supreme Court." The Washington Times (8/12, Dinan, 460K) says the pages released Sunday "range from bookkeeping and scheduling matters to legal advice on whether White House employees should be using official or political stationery for thank-you notes." The Times adds that Democrats "are desperate for explosive revelations from within the documents, hoping for something that could derail the nomination."

Critics Worry Kavanaugh Will Seek To Dismantle The Administrative State. The Washington Post (8/12, Barnes, Mufson, 15.68M) reports that although "hot-button social issues such as abortion and race have so far dominated the debate" about Kavanaugh's nomination to

the Supreme Court, "there is no more important issue to the Trump administration than bringing to heel the federal agencies and regulatory entities" that Kavanaugh has said form "a headless fourth branch of the US government." For years, Kavanaugh "has been an influential judicial voice questioning the administrative state," and his nomination "concerns some who say the agencies' rulemaking powers protect the public." However, his supporters "say he rules for agencies when he finds they are exercising power specifically granted by Congress, but only after a thorough examination."

Grisham: Cuomo Should Sign Bill To Hold Prosecutors Accountable For Misconduct.

In an op-ed for the Wall Street Journal (8/12, Subscription Publication, 6.13M), novelist John Grisham, a member of the Innocence Project's board of directors, urges New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) to sign legislation currently on his desk to create a Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct, which would be empowered to investigate allegations of misconduct by prosecutors and impose sanctions on those who break the law.

Op-Ed, Editorials Weigh In On TSA's Quiet Skies Program.

Gadeir Abbas, Senior Litigation Attorney for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, writes at USA Today (8/12, Abbas, 11.4M) that "the watchlisting system has relegated more than a million people to a kind of second-class status" and with the revelation of the TSA's "Quiet Skies" program, we know why even those with mere 'associations' with people on the watchlist may be targeted, too." He says that "for years, the Council on American-Islamic Relations has received reports that the system not only burdens its targets, but family members and fellow travelers, too." He concludes that "as Congress reviews Quiet Skies, lawmakers must zoom out and assess more broadly whether aiming its watchlisting system at innocent people and their children really makes us any safer."

In an editorial, USA Today (8/12, 11.4M) says Quiet Skies "seems consistent with an effort to identify dangerous people in a sea of more than 2 million travelers a day." TSA Administrator David Pekoske "defended Quiet Skies as 'very effective' and said that 'ordinary citizens' have no need to worry about it." Meanwhile, USA Today argues, "now that the program has been exposed, TSA has an obligation to prove that to Congress and the public. And strong oversight will be needed to ensure that this initiative doesn't become a form of discrimination, as happened with TSA's 'behavior detection' program in the past." USA Today concludes that "oversight is needed, but surveilling suspicious people, rather than snacks and shoes, seems like a smarter way to make air travel more secure."

In an editorial, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (8/12, 507K) says that "recent revelations about the Transportation Security Administration's so-called 'Quiet Skies' program should be cause for alarm for all Americans." The agency "must publicly answer questions about this program and explain in great detail how the program was run, how it was funded and why it should continue."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia To Decrease US Securities Investments.

Reuters (8/12, Ostroukh) reports Russian Finance Minister Anton Siluanov said Sunday during a weekly state-run television show that new US sanctions, "some of which could restrict purchases of Russian government bonds, were 'unpleasant but not fatal.'" In response, Siluanov said, Moscow has "lowered to the minimum level and will further decrease our investment in the U.S. economy, in the U.S. securities." According to Reuters, Siluanov's remarks hinted at "the nature of an unexpected drop in Russia's holdings of U.S. Treasury bonds." Siluanov admitted that the US sanctions would increase inflation as they hurt the Russian rouble, but "said there were no plans to ban using the dollar in Russia."

On Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M), House Foreign Affairs Chairman Ed Royce said Russia's decision to sell US securities will not have "much of an impact," in part because the US currently has "the largest wage growth over the last 10 years," while "underemployment is under 10 percent" and unemployment is below four percent. The US economy, meanwhile, "is growing at plus-four percent." So, Royce said, "in this situation, our economy is very strong. The ability of Putin to have much of an impact on it is not much. And, in the meantime, I think it's very important we be consistent in sending this message that Russia will pay a -- a steep price if these deadly acts aren't answered by Russia." Royce warned, "Russia has to take action now in the next -- in the next months in order to try to reverse its actions and

send a clear message that they're not going to continue to do this."

NYTimes Analysis: Putin Faces Domestic Backlash Over Inability To Thwart Sanctions. A New York Times (8/12, Macfarquhar, 19.33M) analysis says despite Russian President Vladimir Putin's many "strategic" successes, he "has failed to persuade or pressure the West to lift successive waves of American and European economic sanctions." Putin "and some in the Kremlin thought they had a get-out-of-sanctions-free card" in President Trump; however, the Times says, much "to the Kremlin's dismay," the Administration has "developed into a kind of pushmi-pullyu of the diplomatic world." The Administration's "policy zigzags" have "prompted both confusion and anger as the Kremlin floundered to respond." With the ruble now "down to its lowest levels in years," Putin's "standing with Russians is suffering as a result."

Royce: Russia Sanctions Sending A Message To Putin. Royce said on Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M), that the Administration was "right to move forward on these sanctions" against Russia, because Russians "were caught red-handed" in the poison attack on a former Russian spy and his daughter in Britain. He said "that evidence" and new US "sanctions, on top of the sanctions we have already placed on Russia because of their ongoing efforts around the world," put "considerable leverage right now on Putin." Royce said "the Administration is sending the message" to Putin that he "will pay a steep price for your continued intervention in our elections and for your other actions, such as this attack on British soil." Royce said "the cumulative effect" of the new sanctions "is really, really having a hit, not only on the value of the ruble, but on the – on the Russian economy in general."

Graham: "I Appreciate The President Pushing Back" Against Russia. Sen. Lindsey Graham said on Fox News Sunday (8/12, MacCallum, 2.11M), "I think Russian behavior has dominated the relationship here. I don't mind trying to have a better relationship with Russia. They just need to act better to achieve that goal." Graham said Russia was "directly involved in killing the British citizen, the poison that was used in Britain to kill this former Soviet spy – Soviet member who became a spy, came from Russia." He also accused Russia of "meddling in the 2018 election," and said he is "100 percent certain that they are continuing to meddle in our election. They intend to disrupt the 2018 election." As a result, Graham said, he has "introduced hard-hitting sanctions. I applaud the Administration for hitting Russia based on what they did in Britain. So you'll never have a better relationship with Putin as long as he behaves the way he does. And I appreciate the President pushing back."

Nunes: Russian Propaganda Thwarting European LNG Pipeline Project. In an appearance on Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M), House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes said Sunday marked the tenth anniversary of Russia's invasion of northern Georgia, a move he described as "Russia's real first aggression since the Cold War." He said the US "should have acted swiftly," but did not – "probably a mistake on behalf of the West." Nunes said Georgians acted, because "they realized after that happened" that their nation of four million "couldn't take on the Russian bear." He explained that Georgians were "totally reliant on Russian gas," so they "worked with their neighbors in Azerbaijan to bring gas from the Caspian Sea." Now, Nunes said, "there's a push to get – to move that gas, not just through the Black Sea, but actually build a pipeline all the way through Turkey and Greece and Italy." Nunes said the challenge now is bringing "the pipeline ashore in Italy," where "the Russian propaganda machine is actually working."

The Washington Examiner (8/12, Siegel, 340K) reports Nunes "said Russian 'propaganda' is spreading misinformation for Italy to oppose the pipeline," which the Examiner says would serve "as a competitor to Nord Stream 2, a pipeline project that would transport natural gas from Russia to Germany." The Examiner says the Administration supports the "45-mile, \$5.2 billion Trans Adriatic Pipeline," and President Trump has "criticized German Chancellor Angela Merkel for supporting Nord Stream 2, accusing Germany of being 'captive' to Russian gas." Nunes stressed, "If we, the United States, if we now can export LNG, if we can begin to move more gas to Western Europe, and if you could move gas...with this Trans-Caspian gas line into Italy, you now have two solid sources of gas into Europe which then I think really puts the pressure on Germany to not be solely reliant on Russian gas and continue to feed money into the Russian bear."

Seaside Nations Agree On Division Of Caspian Sea Resources. The New York Times (8/12, Kramer, 19.33M) reports Iran, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan "agreed on Sunday to a formula for dividing up the world's largest inland body of water" – the Caspian Sea – "and its potentially vast oil and gas resources." The seaside nations have disputed whether the Caspian Sea should be classified "as international water with territorial zones and neutral areas, though it has no outlet to the world's oceans." The pact signed on Sunday "takes both approaches in a compromise treating the surface as international water and dividing the seabed

into territorial zones." While the deal "settled the status of the sea's surface" and also "created a formula for dividing the subsea resources," the Times says "the delineation of new borders could prove contentious," because Iran, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan still "have disputed claims to petroleum deposits in the southern portion of the sea."

US Ambassador Calls On Britain To Withdraw From Iran Nuclear Deal.

The New York Post (8/12, Moore, 4.46M) reports that in an op-ed for the Telegraph published on Sunday, US Ambassador to the UK Woody Johnson "encouraged Britain to stick with the United States and ditch a 'flawed' 2015 nuclear deal with Iran even as the European Union openly defied sanctions imposed by the Trump administration." Johnson wrote, "America is turning up the pressure and we want the UK by our side." He continued, "It is time to move on from the flawed 2015 deal. We are asking global Britain to use its considerable diplomatic power and influence and join us as we lead a concerted global effort toward a genuinely comprehensive agreement."

WSJournal A1: Turkish Lira Drops To Record Low.

On its front page, the Wall Street Journal (8/12, A1, Schlesinger, Wursthorn, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) reports the Turkish lira, which has dropped more than 40 percent this year, reached a record low Sunday after collapsing last week because of President Trump's decision to raise tariffs on Turkish metals. The Journal says the Administration's moves against Turkey are a departure for the US, which has historically tried to calm global markets when emerging markets face financial turmoil.

The Wall Street Journal (8/12, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorializes that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan may blame President Trump for triggering the lira crisis, but the problem actually stems from years of overborrowing and monetary mismanagement. The Journal says Erdogan should consult economist Steve Hanke about raising confidence in the lira by linking it to the dollar, which would best protect Turkey's economy from Trump's unpredictable practices.

Graham, Royce Call For Brunson's Release. The Washington Times (8/12, Howell, 460K) reports Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) told "Fox News Sunday" that while the US and Turkey must remain cooperative allies, "We're not going to have a normal relationship with Turkey until they let Pastor Brunson out." He said the charges against Brunson "are complete shams. It's a bogus event regarding Pastor Brunson and others who work for the American embassy. They had nothing to do with trying to topple the government." Graham ☐ said (8/12, MacCallum, 1.85M) the two nations must "reset this relationship," and that the best way to do so is to allow Brunson to return to the US. Graham added that he understands Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's concerns in the wake of the failed coup, but the US cannot allow Ankara to move forward with the purchase of F-35 fighter jets if it purchases an S-400 missile defense system from Russia.

House Foreign Affairs Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) similarly said on ☐ Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (8/12, Bartiromo, 1.42M) that "these bogus charges brought against Pastor Brunson have to end. He has to be brought home." Royce said "Erdogan's authoritarian moves" also "need to be countered," so he should "expect more pressure." Royce added that "it is in international interests to have Erdogan cease holding Americans as hostages, and including our NASA scientists there."

Graham: Patience Needed On North Korea.

Sen. Lindsey Graham said on Fox News Sunday ☐ (8/12, MacCallum, 2.11M), "I think we need to be patient. North Korea is going to do the -- going to respond appropriately, or they'll go back to the same old way of doing business. And I can tell you this, President Trump has no place to kick the can when it comes to North Korea. If he had to, as a last resort, he would use military force to stop their missile programs, their nuclear program. And to the Iranians, watch what's going on with Iran." He continued, "Do you want to be next? I appreciate the President withdrawing from the nuclear agreement with Iran and trying to break the ayatollah's back economically. This is a religious theocracy. This dismembering the Mideast. To North Korea, if you don't think Trump will turn on you if you try to play him, watch what's going on in North Korea."

Mattis Visits South America Amid Political, Economic Unrest.

The Washington Times (8/12, Muñoz, 460K) reports Defense Secretary Mattis departed Sunday "on his first diplomatic visit to South America, arriving as the region continues to be embroiled in political and economic upheaval that could have a destabilizing effect." During his South America tour, Mattis "will visit military and national security counterparts in Brazil, before traveling to

Argentina and Chile and ending his visit with meetings with administration officials of newly elected Colombian President Ivan Duque – the youngest president elected in the South American nation.” The Pentagon chief’s “visit coincides with Trump administration efforts to expand US cooperation with allies in the Americas, according to a Pentagon statement on Mr. Mattis’ trip.” The visit also comes as “internal tensions in Venezuela and in nearby Nicaragua threaten to undermine efforts by Washington and the international community in Central and South America,” and as US officials “grapple with the threat of radical jihadist groups such as the Islamic State taking root in the region.”

As Conditions In Venezuela Deteriorate, Piracy Rising In Caribbean. The Washington Post (8/12, Krygier, 15.68M) reports that as “political and economic crises are exploding from Venezuela to Nicaragua to Haiti,” some spots in the Caribbean “are becoming more dangerous than they’ve been in years. Often, observers say, the acts of villainy appear to be happening with the complicity or direct involvement of corrupt officials — particularly in the waters off collapsing Venezuela.” The Post cites a two-year study by the nonprofit Oceans Beyond Piracy that “recorded 71 major incidents in the region in 2017 — including robberies of merchant vessels and attacks on yachts — up 163 percent from the previous year. The vast majority happened in Caribbean waters.”

Two Tons Of Cocaine Uncovered In Drug Bust On Mexican Coast.

ABC World News Tonight (8/12, story 5, 0:20, Llamas, 4.65M) reported on a “massive drug bust on Mexico’s Pacific Coast.” A boat was discovered with two tons of cocaine – estimated to be worth “hundreds of millions of dollars.” Video shows as many as 10 suspected drug traffickers running from a Mexican military helicopter. So far, only one person has been arrested.

NBC Analysis: Europe’s Heat Wave Draws Attention To Climate Change.

NBC Nightly News (8/12, story 6, 1:45, Snow, 5.26M) correspondent Matt Bradley said Europe’s summer “global heat wave has seen topsy-turvy weather, drawing attention to the hot, thirsty elephant in the room: climate change.” Globally, “the past four years have been the hottest ever recorded. And it’s only been a year since President Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement on climate change.” Most researchers “agree human activity is causing the earth to warm.” Georgia Institute Of Technology Earth And Atmospheric Sciences professor Kim Cobb “says the past few summers have surprised even the most seasoned scientists.” Without tighter rules on emissions, she “expects to see the world’s climate get even hotter, raising the stakes along with the temperature.”

WSJournal: US Must Punish Chinese Officials Responsible For Abuses Against Uighurs.

A Wall Street Journal (8/12, Subscription Publication, 6.13M) editorial calls on Congress to support calls by Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) and other lawmakers to sanction Chinese officials responsible for the widespread human rights abuses against ethnic Uighurs. The Journal says the Uighurs’ plight is significant because it reflects how Chinese President Xi Jinping is using detention, surveillance, and propaganda campaigns to an extent unseen since Mao Zedong.

Intense Fighting Continues As Taliban Presses To Seize Key Afghan City.

Reuters (8/12, Staff) reports a senior Afghan official, “who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said around 80 members of the security forces, as well as an unknown number of civilians had been killed” in heavy clashes with Taliban insurgents threatening to seize control of Ghazni. Reuters says the weekend attack – “the heaviest blow struck by the Taliban since they came close to overrunning the western city of Farah in May” – has “dampened hopes of peace talks which had grown since a surprise three-day truce during the Eid al-Fitr holiday in June.” According to Ghazni lawmakers who spoke with residents, “the Taliban were in control of much of the city after launching an initial attack in the early hours of Friday.”

The New York Times (8/12, Nordland, Abed, Mashal, 19.33M) reports the Afghan government and its army “continued to insist that they were in full control of Ghazni,” however, and “authorities said they were slowly moving ahead with ‘clearance operations’ to remove the Taliban.” A US military spokesman, “Lt. Col. Martin L. O’Donnell, said that 10 American airstrikes had been carried out on Sunday, five on Saturday and one on Friday.” Still, insurgents have “begun spreading into districts outside Ghazni city, two of which fell to them overnight, according to reports from local residents and Afghan officials.” The Times says the death toll appear “sure to rise,” and another “100 Afghan soldiers and police officers have been killed in fighting in other

parts of the country over the past two days, officials said, a remarkably high death toll on top of the violence in Ghazni." According to the Times, "The fall of Ghazni would be the Taliban's most important victory yet."

Four Jordanian Security Forces, Three Militants Killed In Shootout.

Reuters (8/12) reports Jordan forces on Sunday "laid siege" to a "building in a residential part of the city of Salt on Saturday night in search of those responsible for a bomb attack on a police van on Friday." Five suspected militants were arrested "during the operation after the suspected militants sought sanctuary in the multistory building in Salt, the government said." Three suspected militants and four security personnel were killed. No group claimed responsibility for the Friday van attack, "but security officials say some evidence points to Islamic State-affiliated sleeper cells inside the kingdom." Security forces are now "investigating if the militants were part of a wider sleeper cell network of Islamist radicals that had planned a series of attacks, an official source said." According to intelligence officials and experts, "widening social disparities and a perception of widespread corruption is fueling a rise in radicalization among disaffected youths in a country with high unemployment and growing poverty."

THE BIG PICTURE

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

Turkish Lira's Fall Raises Concerns
Google Woos Partners For Potential China Expansion
Out Of Syria's Chaos, A Tycoon Builds A Fortune
Private-Equity Firms Push Into Lending

New York Times:

Voting Rights Advocates Used To Have An Ally In The Government. That's Changing.
The Rise And Fall Of Paul Manafort: Greed, Deception And Ego
China Seeks Influence In Europe. One Business Deal At A Time
Wisconsin Faces A Political Crossroads Tuesday. Which Way Will It Go?
V.S. Naipaul, A Writer Of Many Contradictions And Obvious Greatness
Amid Kremlin Victories, Putin Fails To Persuade West On Russian Sanctions

Washington Post:

New Sex Scandals Roiling Vatican
Kavanaugh Heralded As Skeptic On Regulation
An Old Menace Returns To High Seas
Trump Jr. Emerges As Campaign 'Natural'
Protest Dwarfs 'Unite The Right' Rally

Financial Times:

Sun Seeker: Solar Probe Will Endure 1,400-Degree Heat On 7-Year Journey
Turkey Promises Plan To Calm Markets And Halt Lira's Fall
Russia Tries To Win Hearts And Minds With Aid In Syria
EU Prepares Crackdown On 'Citizenships For Sale'

Washington Times:

Police Keep Vastly Outnumbered White Nationalists Separated From Protesters
Nearly 90,000 Pages Of Kavanaugh Documents Released; Vote Set For September
Gov. Hogan Avoids Trump Trap Set By Maryland Democrats, Stays Far Ahead Of Jealous In Polls
Egypt Losing Hope To Partner With Trump For Middle East "Deal Of The Century"
Durkin Placed On Leave Amid Maryland Football Investigation

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: WH-Omarosa Secret Recording; DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; Seattle-Airline Worker Steals Plane; Severe Weather; Baltimore-Man Beaten By Police Officer; University Of Maryland-Head Football Coach Suspended; Electric Scooters For Rent; Mexico-Massive Drug Bust; Puerto Rico-Hurricane Maria-Supplies Never Distributed; California-Small Plane Emergency

Landing; NASA-Solar Probe Launch; United States Coast Guard-Dad Surprises Son At Baseball Game.

CBS: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; Charlottesville-Protests; WH-Omarosa Secret Recording; Seattle-Airline Worker Steals Plane; Wildfires; University Of Maryland-Head Football Coach Suspended; Legal Battles Over Confederate Monuments; Texas-Couple Seeks Legal Action For Treatment Of Autistic Child; NASA-Solar Probe Launch; Trump-China Tariffs-Soybean Cargo Ship Finally Docks; Immigration-Northern Border Crossings; Toddler With Spina Bifida Is Inspiration.

NBC: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; Charlottesville-Protests; WH-Omarosa Secret Recording; Seattle-Airline Worker Steals Plane; Baltimore-Man Beaten By Police Officer; Climate Change-Scientists Around The World Sound Warning; NASA-Solar Probe Launch; Pet Bacteria Warning; Hollywood-'Crazy Rich Asians'; Prejudices And Racism-Expert Comment.

Network TV At A Glance:

WH-Omarosa Secret Recording – 7 minutes, 25 seconds

DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests – 7 minutes, 5 seconds

Seattle-Airline Worker Steals Plane – 6 minutes, 5 seconds

NASA-Solar Probe Launch – 3 minutes, 0 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; Parkland Shooting-Survivors-Summer Bus Tour; WH-Omarosa Secret Recording; PGA Tour.

CBS: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; WH-Omarosa Secret Recording; WH-Space Force-Defense Secretary's Comments; PGA Tour; Box Office.

FOX: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; 2020 Election-Ohio Gov. John Kasich; 2020 Election-Trump-Stormy Daniels' Attorney; South Korea-North Korea Relations.

NPR: DC-Unite The Right Rally And Protests; West Virginia-Articles Of Impeachment For State Supreme Court; Wildfires; Seattle-Airline Worker Steals Plane; Alaska-Earthquake.

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

PRESIDENT TRUMP — delivers remarks and participates in a signing ceremony for H.R. 5515, the "John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019"; hosts a roundtable with supporters; delivers remarks at a joint fundraising committee reception.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — No public schedule announced.

US Senate: Senate on recess from 1-15 Aug

US House: House of Representatives on recess from 27 Jul – 3 Sep

Other:

Women Marines Mark 100th Anniversary of Day 1st Woman Marine Enlisted – New exhibit to celebrate the 100th anniversary of women in the Marines. August 12, 1918, then-Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels granted authority to enlist women for clerical duty in the Marine Corps Reserve. The following day, Opha May Johnson enlisted and became the first woman Marine. Keynote speaker: Lieutenant General Loretta "Lori" Eleanor Reynolds, Deputy Commandant for Information, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps and Commander of Marine Corps Forces Strategic Command – Lt. General Reynolds is the third woman to earn this rank in the US Marine Corps. Interviews available with Women Marines veterans and Marines currently serving. Location: Women In Military Service For America Memorial At the gateway to the Arlington National Cemetery

5:30 PM Sean Spicer speaks at NPC Headliners book event – Former White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer speaks at NPC Headliners Book event on his memoir, 'The Briefing: Politics, The Press, and the President', which was published 24 Jul Location: National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, DC

AICPA National Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference – AICPA National Governmental Accounting and Auditing Update Conference (GAAC): interactive sessions specifically for federal, state, and local govts presented by govt officials and industry experts. Speakers include Comptroller General Gene Dodaro and Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper Location: Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC

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From: HARDY, DAVID M. (IMD) (FBI)
To: RITZMAN, MARLIN L. (IMD) (FBI)
Cc: NEAGLE, LOUISE M. (IMD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (IMD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: ODAG Inquiry Per McCabe Text Messages --- UNCLASSIFIED
Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 1:58:01 PM
Attachments: Talking Points ODAG query.docx

b6

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

TRANSITORY RECORD

Marlin,

As requested.

David

David Hardy

SC, IMD/RIDS

540-868-4500

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